

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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POLL RESULTS

Do you support the proposal to legalize the use of marijuana in the CNMI?

Yes **71**

No **160**

No opinion **7**

Sunday, November 14, 2010

INSIDE



Island Visitors

Saipan's *man'amko* host a reception for their counterparts from Mangilao.

LOCAL...Page 7



Freak Storm

A heavy snowfall causes more than 400 traffic accidents in Minnesota.

NATION...Page 16



Potter Finale

When the final "Harry Potter" reaches theaters, it will do so without Hogwarts.

LIFE & STYLE...Page 19

CNMI yet to avail of \$13M in small business credit aid. PAGE 2
CUC sees \$468K monthly loss in FY11. PAGE 5

Swimmer missing since Friday

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Local and federal authorities launched a search and rescue operation over the weekend to find a swimmer who was reported missing since Friday off the shore of the Aqua Resort Club in Achugao, Saipan.

Department of Public Safety spokesman Sgt. Thomas A. Blas Jr. confirmed with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that a swimmer has been reported missing.

As of yesterday, though, he said he had yet to receive a report from the Boating Safety Section.

See SWIMMER on Page 4

Santos, Hofschneider have most public laws; Torres has most bills

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**
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REPORTER

Veteran lawmaker Rep. Stanley Torres (Ind-Saipan) is the most prolific of 29 lawmakers in terms of introducing the most number of bills, with 19 so far authored in the first 10 months since the 17th Legislature came into office in January. Two of those were among the 24 public laws that Gov. Benigno R. Fitial has so far signed this year.

Of the 274 bills so far introduced, 24 or just 9 percent have become public laws. These are different

See SANTOS on Page 4

SCORECARD

Lawmakers with bills signed into public laws by ranking

No. of laws	Member
3	Rep. Teresita A. Santos (<i>Ind-Rota</i>)
3	Senate Vice President Jude U. Hofschneider (<i>R-Tinian</i>) [One of the bills co-authored by Sen. Henry San Nicolas (<i>Cov-Saipan</i>)]
2	Rep. Ray Yumul (<i>R-Saipan</i>)
2	Sen. Juan Ayuyu (<i>Ind-Rota</i>)
2	Rep. Stanley Torres (<i>Ind-Saipan</i>)
2	Rep. Rafael Demapan (<i>Cov-Saipan</i>)
2	House floor leader George Camacho (<i>Ind-Saipan</i>)
1	Rep. Sylvester Iguel (<i>Cov-Saipan</i>)
1	Rep. Trenton Conner (<i>R-Tinian</i>)
1	House minority leader Diego Benavente (<i>R-Saipan</i>)
1	Sen. Frank Cruz (<i>R-Tinian</i>)
1	Rep. Eli Cabrera (<i>R-Saipan</i>)
1	Sen. Ralph Torres (<i>R-Saipan</i>)
1	Rep. Ray Basa/Vice Speaker Felicidad Ogumoro (<i>both Cov-Saipan</i>)
1	Sen. Jovita Taimanao (<i>Ind-Rota</i>)
24	TOTAL

Source: 17th Legislature

Mislabeled products entering NMI

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Department of Public Health is seeing an increase in the number of mislabeled products and items being imported to the islands from unknown distributors.

John Tagabuel, deputy secretary for public health administration, disclosed

this last week, saying the department's Bureau of Environmental Health will be taking aggressive steps to resolve this concern.

He said bureau representatives are currently investigating products and items that "illegally" enter the Commonwealth.

Just recently, the government seized

See MISLABELED on Page 4

AFTER 7-MONTH LULL



HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Shell gas prices up by 5 cents a gallon

A gasoline attendant fills a truck's pump at a Shell service station on Middle Road yesterday afternoon. Shell's gas prices went up by 5 cents a gallon on Friday night, while Mobil Oil Marianas's pump prices remained unchanged as of yesterday.

NEW PRICES

SELF-SERVICE		FULL-SERVICE	
Regular	\$3.929	Regular	\$4.059
Premium	\$4.249	Premium	\$4.369
DIESEL		\$4.109	

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Saipan motorists are now paying 5 cents more for every gallon of regular and premium gasoline and diesel that they buy from

Shell Marianas after the oil giant increased its pump prices Friday night, seven months since the last round of price hikes in April.

As of yesterday afternoon, Mobil Oil Marianas had yet to

See SHELL on Page 4

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CNMI yet to avail of \$13M in small business credit aid

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

With only two weeks to go before deadline, the CNMI government has yet to file a notice of intent with the U.S. Treasury secretary to become eligible to receive the over \$13 million in credit aid allocated for the Commonwealth to help its small businesses.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan reminded Gov. Benigno R. Fitial about the Nov. 26 dead-

line to file a notice of intent, or the CNMI loses the opportunity to avail of the \$13 million in credit aid for small businesses.

In an interview on Friday, Sablan said this is something that the CNMI cannot afford to pass up during these tough economic times when small and big businesses need all the help they can from their government.

U.S. Public Law 111-240 or the Small Business Lending Fund Act of 2010 set aside \$13,168,350 for the CNMI under the State Small Business Credit Initiative to help promote private access to credit for small businesses.

Press secretary Angel Demapan, when asked for comment, said the Fitial administration has established a track record of availing of additional funding opportunities that are made available to the Commonwealth.

"Nonetheless, the administration will work with the CNMI Department of Commerce and its recently re-established Small Business Development Center to ensure that the CNMI receives its fair share. The administration views this additional funding opportunities to small businesses as another positive step toward infusing much needed revenues into the economy," he said.

States and territories, including the CNMI, have until 5pm EST on Friday, Nov. 26, to file a notice of intent with the Treasury secretary to be eligible to receive the allocated funds to them.

"If you have not already done

so, I encourage you to take advantage of the [State Small Business Credit Initiative] financial assistance to support local businesses to obtain credit under an existing government lending program, a loan guarantee program, or to establish a Capital Access Program," Sablan told Fitial in a one-page Nov. 12 letter.

The Capital Access Program is a loan portfolio insurance program that provides a matching contribution to bank loan loss reserves when lenders extend credit to qualified small businesses.

These reserves improve lenders capability to extend credit to new borrowers to expand their businesses and create jobs.

The first step in applying for these allocated funds is to file a notice of intent on or before Nov. 26, 2010 in order to be eligible to apply.

The next step is to apply for these funds on or before June 27, 2011.

More information about this initiative is available at www.treasury.gov/offices/domestic-finance/ssbci.

Sablan also furnished copies of his letter to the governor to Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos, House Speaker Froilan Tenorio (Cov-Saipan), Senate President Paul Manglona (R-Rota), and Saipan Chamber of Commerce president Douglas Brennan.

Sablan first announced the availability of the \$13 million in credit aid to help small business in the CNMI in October.

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Criminal Justice Statistical Analysis Center P.O. Box 501133 Chalan Kanoa • Saipan, MP 96950 TEL: (670) 664 4550 • Fax: (670) 664 4560	
PUBLIC NOTICE	
Pursuant to 1 CMC §9912, the Criminal Justice Planning Agency hereby giving notice that the Northern Marianas Council for the Improvement of the Criminal Justice System, also known as the Supervisory Council will hold its: 1) Annual Meeting on Thursday, November 18, 2010, 9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M. at the Claret Conference Room, Fiesta Resort, Saipan, and; 2) Subgrant-Review and Award Meeting on Friday, November 19, 2010, 8:00 A.M. - 4:30 P.M. at the NAPU Conference Room, Pacific Islands Club, Saipan.	
I.	Welcome & Introduction
II.	Call to Order & Roll Call
III.	Review & Adoption of Agenda
IV.	Review & Adoption of Meeting Minutes <i>Supervisory Council Meeting of June 30, 2010</i>
V.	Action Items
VI.	New Business
a.	Election of Vice Chairman
b.	Supervisory Council Bylaws, I. P. Aquiningoc
c.	Supervisory Council CD and Refresher Course: J. Jerome
1.	OJP & OVW Grants Overview
2.	Roles & Responsibilities;
3.	Subgrantees Processes;
4.	Applicants-Summary & Evaluation Forms
c.	Planning for 2010 Awards Meeting and Format
VII.	Reports:
a.	Chairman, Ignacio P. Aquiningoc, Supervisory Council
b.	Executive Director, Jerome Jerome, CJPA
c.	Committee
VIII.	Old Business
a.	Conducting Council Business via internet and/or teleconference;
IX.	Executive Session
a.	Approval of FY 2010 Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) Grant Program Awards presented by the Youth Advisory Council (YAC), Mr. Joe Limes, YAC Chairman:
o	Title II Formula Grant
o	Title V Prevention Grant
o	Juvenile Accountability Block Grant
o	Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Grant
b.	Review and Award of FY 2010 Justice Grant Programs:
o	Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG);
o	Victims of Crime Act (VOCA);
o	Services, Training, Officers, Prosecutors (STOP) Violence Against Women Act (VAWA); and
o	Sexual Assault Services Program (SASP)
X.	Miscellaneous
XI.	Next Meeting
XII.	Adjournment
Should you need more information, please call the CJPA at 664-4550-7.	
/s/ Mr. Ignacio P. Aquiningoc Chairperson CJPA Supervisory Council	/s/ Mr. Jerome I. Jerome Executive Director, CJPA
Publication of this notice was paid for with federal funds made possible by the Bureau of Justice Assistance Grant, Office on Victims of Crime and Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice.	

Couple seeks dismissal of racketeering claims against them

A lawyer and his wife have asked the federal court to dismiss four of the nine claims in the lawsuit filed by an investor who has accused them of engaging in corporate hijacking racketeering.

Ramon K. Quichocho and his wife, Frances C. Quichocho, asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to dismiss with prejudice the four claims filed by Jung Ja Kim in her lawsuit.

Dismissal with prejudice means the claims cannot be re-opened again.

The Quichocho couple, through counsel Michael W. Dotts, said that Kim's first amended complaint does not state a cause of action under the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act (RICO) and for fraud and should be dismissed.

"Put very simply, Kim has alleged that the Quichochoes tricked her out of her poker business," Dotts said.

But to fit under RICO, Dotts said, Kim broke down the alleged single offense into small parts to invent a "pattern," to come up with "continuity," and to tease out "activities"

that allegedly constitute the crimes of wire fraud and money laundering.

Kim, a Korean businesswoman, sued the Quichocho, his law offices, his wife Frances, and their company Karissa LLC, for RICO violations, professional malpractice, breach of fiduciary duty, breach of contract, conversion, fraud, and constructive trust.

In April 2010, the federal court dismissed three of Kim's nine claims. The judge, however, allowed the businesswoman to amend her complaint.

Dotts said the first amended complaint still fails to adequately plead a pattern of racketeering activity.

For example, Dotts said, Kim alleges in the first amended complaint that on or May 16, 2008, Kim paid \$60,000 to renew the license of five poker machines that she transferred

to Tan Dingo. Kim alleges that the license fees were paid using a debit card.

Dotts pointed out Kim fails to state who owns the debit card, and who was paid.

More importantly, Dotts said, Kim does not allege that any of the defendants have possession or control of the five machines that she renewed the license for, because Kim never delivered the five machines to Tan Dingo or any of the defendants.

The lawyer said this is one of the reasons why she cannot allege that the "defendants induced or caused her to renew the license of five machines or to use a wire." (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

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Caps on lawmakers' vehicle leases, cell phone bills pushed

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Lawmakers, who are constitutionally exempted from any work hour cuts, will have to limit their government-paid vehicle lease once a bill putting caps on the amount they could spend on these items is passed and signed into law.

Rep. Frederick Deleon Guerrero

(Ind-Saipan) said placing a monthly ceiling on cellular telephone and vehicle lease or rental charges incurred by lawmakers under their legislative account is one way of reducing the government's expenditures given the current financial crisis.

Under Deleon Guerrero's House Bill 17-126, all vehicle leases or rentals incurred by any lawmaker under a legislative account should not exceed \$300

a month.

Deleon Guerrero also proposes to cap at \$100 the monthly cellular phone payments incurred by any House or Senate member under a legislative account.

The freshman lawmaker also recommends eliminating the possible use of taxpayers' money to pay for the utility billings of the governor, lieutenant governor, Senate president and House speaker.

These four officials are authorized to obtain government houses for their private and residential purposes for the duration of their term in such office.

"Utility billings incurred by the

aforementioned elected officials shall not be paid using government funds," Deleon Guerrero said in his bill.

The House is set to hold a session tomorrow, but this bill is not on the bill calendar.

SHELL

From Page 1

change its prices. Historically, Shell and Mobil mirror each other's price changes.

Paul Pedro, a 42-year-old father of two, said every gasoline price increase means more cost-cutting in the family, especially in these tough economic times.

"It's going to affect the pocket. I have to cut down on other things to accommodate gas expenses. For example, I may not have frequent picnics on the beach anymore. Since I can't go without gas, then I'll just stay home," Pedro told *Saipan Tribune* while filling up his sedan at a Shell gasoline station yesterday afternoon.

Pedro, a resident of As Lito, said he used to dive and swim at Grotto in Marpi every week back when he could still afford the cost of gasoline.

"I haven't seen the northern part of the island for months now," he said.

Shell's full-service regular gasoline is now \$4.059 a gallon, after a 5-cent increase. Prior to the increase, full-serve regular gasoline at Shell

was only \$4.009 a gallon.

Its self-service regular gasoline now costs \$3.929 a gallon.

Self-service gasoline prices are the ones on display at service stations.

Shell's full-service premium or V-Power gasoline is now \$4.369 a gallon, while the self-service is \$4.249 a gallon.

Diesel also went up to \$4.109 a gallon, after a 5-cent increase.

Isai Roby, a 25-year-old Chalan Laulau resident, said gasoline stations should bring down instead of raise the costs of gasoline during these tough financial times.

"No jobs are available for a lot of people but we see prices going up. Everywhere you look, a lot of people have no jobs," said Roby, who is currently unemployed. "I just lost my job."

He said residents have to choose between buying food and filling up their vehicle.

"It would be harder for those with big trucks," he added.

James Taitano, a 19-year-old resident of Kagman 2, said the gas price increase will be more difficult for those living in Kagman and are working further down.

Taitano, for example, has two jobs that require him to go to Gualo Rai every day, and to Koblerville thrice a week. The long travel means more gasoline needed for his pickup truck.

"The fact that I have two jobs and I have to travel between work and home, any gas increase is going to be a bit of a problem," he said.

The last time Shell and Mobil increased their prices were in April, by 10 cents a gallon.

Friday's price increase was the fourth one since 2010 started. Since February 2009, Saipan motorists have seen an increase of at least \$1.20 a gallon in gasoline price.

Shell and Mobil do not issue advance notice of price increases. Saipan motorists know about such price changes by the price displays at gasoline service stations.

Assets of Shell North Pacific were acquired last year by Isla Petroleum and Energy Holding Co. IP&E is engaged in the petroleum retail, aviation, and commercial businesses in Micronesia.

It runs its retail stations under the Shell brand, and is the sister company of IT&E, the largest wireless company in Micronesia.

SWIMMER

From Page 1

The U.S. Coast Guard Sector Guam, in a news release on Saturday, said the swimmer was reported missing Friday noon.

Lt. Junior Grade Wade Thompson said that, upon being notified of the incident on Friday, search and rescue coordinators at the U.S. Coast Guard Sector Guam contacted the Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 25, which sent a helicopter to help Saipan's Boating Safety Section in the search.

Thompson said the helicopter and

Boating Safety searched until sunset Friday and throughout the entire day of Saturday.

He said the U.S. Coast Guard cutter *Washington*, a 110-foot patrol boat homeported in Apra Harbor, Guam, arrived on Saipan on Saturday and searched farther offshore along the western side of Saipan.

Additional searches were planned yesterday.

Thompson did not release the identity of the missing swimmer.

On Friday, Corrections Officer Jesus Castro, who was spear fishing with a companion, drowned outside the reef of Obyan Beach.

In Guam, Coast Guard Sector Guam also coordinated the rescue of two hikers who were disoriented and dehydrated in the vicinity of Cetti Bay on Saturday.

Thomson said they also responded on Saturday to a call for help from a boater three miles west of Agat Marina in Guam. The boat was spotted and towed, while the two passengers were taken back to safety in Agat Marina.

Thompson emphasized the use of proper safety gear in the water at all times and urged the public to report all marine emergencies to the Coast Guard Sector Command Center at (671) 564-USCG.

MISLABELED

From Page 1

a high volume of fashion contact lenses from store shelves as part of a worldwide recall of these items.

Tagabuel said a large volume of these seized contact lenses is now with the department in preparation for disposal.

Tagabuel said mislabeled products are those items being sold and distributed in stores without proper information such as ingredients and other important details for customer reference.

He said a majority of mislabeled items being reported to the bureau are those not written in the three approved languages in the CNMI: English, Chamorro, and Carolinian.

"These mislabeled items are destined to be exposed...and the importer has the

prerogative to take them back or pay for the items' disposal," said Tagabuel.

To date, only one "source" of the mislabeled contact lenses has been identified but Tagabuel said the bureau is still looking for others.

"The investigation on how these contact lenses came in...is ongoing. We need to find the other importers of this product," he said.

'Affected NAP, WIC clients'

Prior to the mislabeled contact lenses, a voluntary recall of the Similac baby milk was also conducted on the island.

Tagabuel confirmed last week that Similac infant formulas had already been distributed to many recipients of the Nutrition Assistance Program and the Women's Infant and Children program of the Department of Public Health prior to the recall.

"The Similac is separately recalled...

and it affected a lot of our NAP and WIC recipients," said Tagabuel.

Both programs are federally funded and provide free milk products and other items to children of low-income recipients.

Abbott Laboratories Inc. earlier announced that the Similac recall was a result of the discovery of small insects in the cans of milk that were produced at a manufacturing facility in Sturgis, Michigan.

Roxanne Diaz, special assistant to the secretary of public health, emphasized the need for community involvement in addressing concerns about mislabeled and damaged products.

"It's important that the community also take the initiative in reporting to us. The bureau is very responsive in taking their calls and looking at the situation. We encourage everyone to take part in this campaign," she said.

SANTOS

From Page 1

from local laws.

Freshman lawmaker Rep. Teresita A. Santos (Ind-Rota) ranks second to Torres, with 16 bills under her belt. Three of these became public laws.

Santos is one of two lawmakers with the most number of bills that the governor signed into law since January.

The other is Senate Vice President Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian), who also introduced five bills.

Another freshman lawmaker, floor leader George Camacho (Ind-Saipan), is third with 14 bills introduced. Two became public laws.

The number four spot is shared by four House members who each introduced nine bills: Rep. Ray Tebuteb (R-Saipan), Rep. Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan), Rep. Ray Basa (Cov-Saipan), and Rep. Frederick P. Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan).

Basa's budget bill, which was co-authored by Vice Speaker Felicidad Ogunoro (Cov-Saipan), became Public Law 17-21.

Torres, when asked for comment, said the introduction of bills is not in itself a measure of a good lawmaker.

"I'm not even keeping track of the number of bills I introduced. In my opinion, if a member's bill becomes law, then that could be used to say whether a member is doing a good job. But that also depends on the bill introduced," Torres told *Saipan Tribune*.

He hopes his controversial marijuana bill would also become law.

Torres' Nuclear and Chemical-Free Zone Act of 1983 became Public Law 17-10, and his Youth Congress law amendment bill became P.L. 17-22.

Santos said in her view, the number of bills a lawmaker introduces that eventually become law is not necessarily a measure of an effective lawmaker.

Just like Torres, Santos said "it depends on the merits of the bills."

Of the 16 bills that Santos introduced, the ones that became laws included one that removed the three legislative days requirement for certain local bills. This became P.L. 17-2.

The second one, which became PL 17-4, requires the Department of Public Lands to waive the requirement or policy of rebuilding a second residential dwelling when homesteaders initially built a residential dwelling that was destroyed or severely damaged by typhoon, tsunami or other natural or man-made disaster.

Santos' bill lifting fishing restrictions on Rota also became PL 17-13.

'We could have done more'

Camacho, who introduced, 14 bills of which two became laws, said he feels the Legislature "could have done more."

"I am happy to have two of my bills signed into law. However, we do have much more work ahead. Honestly, I felt that we started the year slow, but I feel that we are making great progress and stride. More will become law sooner," he said.

Camacho's bill amending the Commonwealth Code to allow "irreconcilable differences" or mutual consent as grounds for divorce in the CNMI became PL 17-20 without the governor's signature because the time had lapsed for the governor to act on it.

His bill requiring seven government offices to provide free notary public services also became PL 17-24.

Hofschneider, whose three of five bills introduced became public laws, said it's good to have some of his bills become laws.

"It would be better if all of them get the nod," he added.

One of his bills that became law was co-authored with Sen. Henry San Nicolas. Their bill became PL 17-18, designating the House of Taga Park on Tinian as a Commonwealth historical site and renames the Tinian Health Center to the Lucia Villagomez "Chiang" Arizapa Health Center.

Hofschneider's bill designating at least 50 percent of available public land on Tinian for homesteads became PL 17-12, while his bill naming the Natibu Park Amphitheater on Tinian "The Antonio Manglona Borja Amphitheater" became PL 17-15.

Others

Sen. Jovita Taimanao (Ind-Rota) introduced seven bills, and one of them—to allow the raising of Sambar deer in captivity—became PL 17-23.

The top six spot in terms of bills introduced is shared by one House member and three senators. House Speaker Froilan Tenorio (Cov-Saipan), Senate floor leader Pete P. Reyes (R-Saipan), Sen. Frank Cruz (R-Tinian) and Sen. Juan M. Ayuyu (Ind-Rota) introduced six bills each.

Of the six bills that the speaker introduced, including his controversial Saipan casino bill, none has so far been signed into law.

Two of Ayuyu's bills became PL 17-3 and PL 17-17, while one of Cruz's bills became PL 17-14.

Five lawmakers ranked seventh with five bills each introduced: Rep. Ray Yumul (R-Saipan), Rep. Joseph Palacios (R-Saipan), Senate President Paul Manglona (R-Rota), Sen. Hofschneider, and Sen. Luis Crisostimo (D-Saipan). Two of Yumul's bills became public laws.

The rest introduced four or lower number of bills each.

The other lawmakers with bills that became law include Rep. Rafael Demapan (Cov-Saipan), Rep. Sylvester Iguel (Cov-Saipan), House minority leader Diego T. Benavente (R-Saipan), Rep. Trenton Conner (R-Tinian), Rep. Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan), and Sen. Ralph Torres (R-Saipan).

It was Demapan's bill on immigration reform that became the first law to be signed during the 17th Legislature. Demapan's other bill, which allowed early voting for the first time in CNMI history, became PL 17-11. Cabrera's bill, which addressed concerns of abuse and fraud during early voting, became PL 17-16. Torres' bill establishing a Cancer Registry became PL 17-19.

BASED ON EXISTING ELECTRIC BASE RATE

CUC sees \$468K monthly loss in FY11

» 'Proposed power rate hike still protects low-income customers'

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. expects to incur a monthly loss of \$468,830 in fiscal year 2011 under its current electric base rate, equivalent to annual loss of \$5.626 million.

It is therefore necessary, CUC said, to adjust the existing base rate to sustain operations so the utilities firm could continue providing reliable power to its customers.

CUC filed with the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission last week a petition to increase its current base electric rates starting April 2011.

According to CUC's rate application, the cost of operating CUC's electric division this fiscal year is \$91.904 million. Roughly two-thirds of this cost—\$59.96 million—is for fuel while non-fuel costs are \$31.939 million.

CUC expects to generate only \$26.314 million in revenues from its current base electric rates (non-fuel revenue). This translates to an annual loss of \$5.6 million for CUC. The utilities firm asserts in

its application that the proposed rate increase is necessary to eliminate these losses.

CUC assures that the proposed hike still protects the lowest income customers. It says that both the existing and proposed rate plans continue its policy of charging its lowest volume and lowest income ratepayers "lifeline" rates, which represent its lowest rates for service.

"The average cost to CUC of producing its electricity, apart from oil, is 10.2 cents per kilowatt-hour. The marginal rate for these lifeline customers will be 2.1 cents per kilowatt-hour, which is very much below cost. Higher income and higher volume ratepayers, including commercial ratepayers, will experience a slightly higher rate increase under CUC's proposal," CUC documents state.

Besides the recovery of \$5.6 million in projected losses, CUC points out that new rate plan will enable the firm to begin issuing the kinds of corporate bonds typical in the industry to cover long-term electric system improvements.

It is also designed to meet the CNMI law because both PUC orders and CNMI statutes require the utilities corporation to set rates that achieve full cost recovery. The present rates, CUC said, do not cover all these costs.

The proposed rate plan also

encourages energy conservation because the more people cut power use, the more they save. This cuts back on the CNMI's use of expensive imported oil.

The proposal will also satisfy the U.S. District Court requirements and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency mandates as outlined in the stipulated orders.

The following are the charges and rates under the proposed rate plan for April 2011: Ratepayers who use between:

- 0 and 500 kWh monthly would experience an increase from \$0.016 to \$0.021 per kWh
- Between 500 and 1,000 kWh the rate would increase from \$0.066 to \$0.086 per kWh
- From 1,000 to 2,000 kWh the rate would increase from \$0.086 to \$0.1120
- Over 2,000 kWh, the rate would increase from \$0.1270 to \$0.1650.

Saipan Tribune learned that PUC has indicated that it will evaluate the merits of the CUC's rate application and make a formal ruling at its March 2011 hearing. If approved, the rate plan will become effective on April 1, 2011.

PUC earlier decided to keep the existing power rates until March 2011 in consideration of the island's economic situation. Since 2008, CUC has been under a state of emergency as a result of its poor services and condition.

November 14 is World Diabetes Day



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so important to be aware of the risk factors associated with diabetes, such as: being overweight, having high blood pressure and/or high cholesterol, a family history of the disease, as well as many others.

The American Diabetes Association has also estimated that less than 1/3 of diabetic patients are getting a dilated eye exam every year even though diabetes is the leading causes of blindness. Please don't take a chance with something as precious as your eyesight.

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Saures, Fitial top MHS education awardees

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Victoria Saures and Dominic Fitial topped this year's education awardees at Marianas High School and they will vie for the overall titles, along with four other recipients, in the Public School System's islandwide search for outstand-

ing employees.

Saures is a classroom teacher for Geometry. She was described as an excellent educator who provides a positive learning environment for students. The outstanding educator is also proficient in lesson planning, incorporating activities for all types of learners. Additionally, she has no difficulty in meeting

PSS standards and benchmarks and her classroom management skills are rated as exceptional, empowering students to take responsibility for their actions.

For MHS leaders and colleagues, Saures is an asset to the school faculty. She volunteers many extra hours to help write, develop and align the Mathematics curriculum, to write

grants for materials needed in the classroom, and to assist on the review committee for the CNMI Standards Based Assessment. She is also a team player, who can be relied upon to assist whenever needed—whether as a PSS Learning Community member, class adviser, or after-school tutor. Saures is one of those rare teachers whose quali-

ties and contributions can never be measured. Her dedication and commitment to the school are exceptional.

Dominic Fitial, adjudged as MHS' teacher aide of the year, has been in service for over five years. His daily routine and expertise are valued at the school level as he extends his home visits and communication skills

in the local language to address the communication barrier for students in the Special Education program. During summer, Fitial attends school summer programs. Everyday he deals with a variety of students with one or multiple disabilities. Some say it takes a village to raise a child but, more importantly, it takes one good teacher aide to work with all types of students who can provide them with basics through extensive time and dedication.

MHS conferred the counselor of the year award to Hazel Tudela. She is described as a dedicated counselor who is visible and eager to serve the students. As a certified counselor, Tudela is resourceful, hard working, creative, dynamic and talented. Outside her office, you will find her assisting in various school and community-related activities and events. Many have witnessed her leadership skills by facilitating numerous professional development trainings and or co-presenting numerous inter-island presentations.

Named administrator of the year in the vice principal category was Cherlyn Cabrera, who has been with MHS for over seven years. She has been an inspirational teacher and a dynamic counselor. In addition, she taught at the junior high level for over two years and her commitment and dedication are immeasurable. The MHS motto "Team Effort Towards Excellence" is evident in everything that Cabrera does. She willingly goes beyond the call of duty to mentor new teachers and counselors, to assist with school activities, to be a member of the school accreditation team, and more.

The administrative staff of the year awardee is Ricardo Enriquez. He deals with daily attendance and communicates with parents on all student concerns, requests, and discipline referrals to the Student Services Office. After seeing all that he does to make the teachers' jobs better at the school level, he does the school errands and requests for other agencies. Enriquez is hard working, flexible, and willing to learn hands on with his computer skills.

Emory Fitial was named MHS' trades and maintenance of the year recipient. He works hard everyday to ensure that tasks are completed and the school custodian and maintenance supplies and materials are available to complete daily job assignments. Fitial also ensures that all labor demands are complete with his support and dedication. He is a team player and very flexible when given various job roles and assignments for the day. He takes his job seriously and works hard to find resourceful ways to make the challenge fun but fulfilled. He goes beyond the call of duty by extending his knowledge and experience with various trades such as electrical, plumbing, mechanical, custodial, and much more.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The six outstanding personnel of Marianas High School this year: from left are teacher aide of the year nominee Dominic Fitial, administrative staff of the year awardee Ricardo Enriquez, teacher of the year award recipient Victoria Saures, vice-principal of the year Cherlyn Cabrera, counselor of the year awardee Hazel Tudela, and maintenance of the year awardee Emory Fitial.



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Mangilao senior citizens visit Saipan

By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Congregates of the Aging Center on Saipan hosted a welcome reception for their counterparts from the Mangilao Senior Citizens' Center on Friday.

Mangilao Senior Citizens' Center manager Carmen Aguon and senior citizens president Ann Benavente led the group that arrived Thursday night. Others with the group were Maria Rosa Cruz, Julia Uncangco, Angie Mafnas, Rosario Naburn, Ralph Mafnas, Joaquin Mafnas, and Lydia Nostrates.

The Mangilao senior citizens were escorted by Diane Garrido and Nida Yating.

Office on Aging executive director Rose Mondala welcomed the guests during the program prepared by the congregates, including a special banquet made especially for the Guam visitors.

"Welcome to Saipan. We hope you enjoy your stay here. We don't have many shopping centers here like you do in Guam but we have a lot of food here," Mondala said.

Mondala and Saipan Seniors Advisory Council president Teresita Sorroza gave a plaque of appreciation to Aguon and Benavente.

"You have brought happiness to our clients and I am certain that friendship is inevitable. Friendship is vital in keeping a strong bond between interisland relationships that will last forever. We welcome you into our family and hope that one day we will visit you in Guam," the plaque stated.

Benavente said only eight of the original 15 senior citizens from the Mangilao Senior Citizens Center were able to make it to Saipan due to finan-



Congregates from the Aging Center on Saipan pose with their counterparts from the Mangilao Senior Citizens' Center during a program reception last Nov. 12.

CLARISSA V. DAVID

cial constraints.

According to Benavente, the Mangilao senior citizens paid for their own expenses.

Benavente, who visited the Aging Center for the first time, said she finds it interesting.

"It's a very big center and they have the pictures of their members displayed on the walls. The people here are friendly," she said.

Aguon, who has visited the center in the past, said the place has improved since the last time she was here.

"We're here to spend time with the Saipan senior citizens, participate in their activities including bingo because it's also popular in our center. We will also do sightseeing around the island," said Aguon.

The visitors flew back to Guam on Nov. 14.

The Mangilao Senior Citizens' Center is one of 12 centers in Guam. The center currently has about 80 registered members.



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COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION



NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER OF SALE IN DEED OF TRUST

Francisco L. Kaipat, (collectively "Trustor"), on or about **February 21, 2001** gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, formerly known as the Mariana Island Housing Authority ("Trustee"), acting on behalf of the Department of Veterans Affairs, United States of America, ("VA"), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on **February 26, 2001** under Document No. 01-268 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the VA.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sale affect the property hereafter described:

LOT NO. 128 D 51, (formerly known as part of Lot 018 D 57), containing an area of **620 square meters**, more or less, as more particularly described on **Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 128 D 00** the original of which was recorded **07 DEC 99** as Document No. 99-2896 at Commonwealth Recorder's, Saipan.

The Trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default Trustee issued its Notice of Default on **August 13, 2010**. More than thirty days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and said default has not been cured.

Pursuant to 2CMC §4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, Trustee will, on **Monday, November 15, 2010 at 10:00 a.m.**, at the **Northern Marianas Housing Corporation's office in Garapan, Saipan** under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. **The minimum bid offer shall be not less than \$61,691.00** the total amount due under the VA loan.

A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within 72 hours of the auction sale. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within 72 hours will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will revert to NMHC. The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property of the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to real property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

DATED this 8th day of October, 2010.

/S/ Joshua T. Sasamoto
Corporate Director, NMHC

"NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer"



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BID CUC-IFB-11-008

Cross Island Road Improvements, Phase II-A, Power Poles & Lines Relocation, Papago, Saipan

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the relocation of overhead power distribution systems along Cross Island Road in Papago, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The bid package may be picked-up at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A mandatory pre-bid meeting followed by a site visit, is scheduled for November 29, 2010 at 10:00 AM, local time, at the CUC Conference Room in the Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, to ensure that the contractors are fully aware of the work involved and familiarize with the site conditions. All bidder are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidder due to lack of information or understanding of the project site conditions in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid or performance of work under the contract.

One (1) original and Seven (7) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-11-008, Cross Island Road Improvements, Phase II-A, Power Poles & Lines Relocation, Papago, Saipan", to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than December 09, 2010 at 10:00 AM, (CHST) at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of 15 percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury. A Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC. All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

The bidder is required to submit a copy of his CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page — <http://www.dol.gov/esa/minwage/cnmi/cnmi.htm>.

The IFB does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the bid under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Selection procedure shall be in full compliance with CUC Procurement Regulations. Bidders will also be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (CHST) local time on December 3, 2010 to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email - msablan@cucgov.net with a copy to Mr. John Onedera, Power Division Engineer - johno@cucgov.net and Ms. Janina Mika Muna, Admin. Support Assistant, Procurement & Supply - mika_muna@cucgov.net.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

ABE U. MALAE
Executive Director

CUC fails to beat deadline to hire deputy executive chief

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. has failed to meet Friday's deadline to hire a deputy executive director for the water and wastewater division as the candidates for the position all reside off island.

Deborah E. Fisher, lawyer for CUC, said, however, that they expect to make an offer of employment to one of the candidates before Saturday, Nov. 20.

Pursuant to the second joint stipulation entered by CUC and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the parties agreed to provide the U.S. District Court for the NMI and each other with notice by way of letter filed with the court if either party anticipates it will not be able to meet any deadline.

In CUC's letter on Thursday to U.S. District Court for the NMI visiting judge David O. Carter, Fisher said the Nov. 12 deadline would not be met because CUC executive director Abe Utu Malae was not appointed until Oct. 29, 2010.

Fisher said the deadline was impossible to meet because Malae was only appointed recently and especially since all candidates for the position all reside off island.

Fisher said the new executive director immediately began working toward filling this position upon his appointment.

"Vetted candidates were interviewed on Nov. 6, 2010, and the top two, who are both residing in the continental U.S., were selected by the committee," she said.

CUC has already coordinated with both top candidates and arranged for them to visit Saipan.

Airplane tickets have been booked for one candidate to arrive Friday, Nov. 12, and the other candidate to arrive Saturday, Nov. 13.

Fisher said CUC is asking that the new deputy executive director start work as originally scheduled, within the 60-day period provided in the second joint stipulation—which would be on or before Jan. 11, 2011—so that there is no material change in the second joint stipulation provisions.

The executed contract of the candidate hired will be submitted to EPA, she said.

The first and second stipulated orders are intended to resolve longstanding deficiencies relating to CUC's wastewater systems, drinking water systems, and oil storage, transportation, and disposal program.

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Nov. 15, 1999

Govt to step up drive vs crime

The arrest of 15 suspected prostitutes and pimps at a raid last Thursday night conducted by the Department of Public Safety in the Garapan tourist district is part of the government's campaign to get rid the island of criminal elements. According to Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio, his administration will step up anti-crime efforts to stem not just prostitution but other increasing unlawful activities in the CNMI. "There are so many things going on in the island now and everything is our concern, especially if it is endangering the livelihood of our community here," he said in an interview Friday.

Babauta presses DOD to clean up Tanapag

CNMI Resident Representative to Washington Juan N. Babauta has pressed the U.S. Department of Defense to include in the cleanup a ravine area in Tanapag village where 55-gallon drums of unidentified chemicals have been leaking in the nearby water system. In a letter to Defense Secretary William Cohen, the Resident Representative noted that this abandoned military materiel pose health and environmental risks to the community. Due to the recent discovery of used chemicals in Tanapag, Babauta underscored the need for a comprehensive inventory of the sites abandoned by the U.S. military as these substances left in the environment have harmful effects on the public's health.

Nov. 15, 2000

SBA, CDA signs loan pact for additional microloan money

The United States Small Business Administration and the Commonwealth Development Authority will today execute loan closing documents for additional funds earmarked for the Microloan Program. SBA-Guam legal counsel Robert Pearson will sign the documents for \$420,000 in additional funds to expand the Microloan Program with CDA Board Chair John S. Tenorio and Executive Director Marylou S. Ada. The additional funds would facilitate the expansion of the highly-successful Microloan Program as it will allow the agency to replenish its depleting portfolio for small-scale investors in the Northern Marianas.

Low retention rate alarms NMC

The Northern Marianas College is devising plans to investigate the steady decline in the college's student retention rate, which is approximately at 27 percent against the 40 to 45 percent average retention rate based on national norms. NMC's Office of Institutional Effectiveness, the Counseling Center, and the Office of Admissions, Records and Financial Aid has forged an alliance to probe the reasons behind the dismal student retention figures in efforts to stem the tide. According to Julie Ulloa-Heath, Office of Institutional Effectiveness director, the key departments are set to launch the NMC Retention Program where they will administer satisfaction surveys aimed at stimulating clearer answers as to why a significant percentage of NMC freshmen do not return to the college for their sophomore year.

Nov. 15, 2001

Brostrom: Discontinue anthrax medication

Public Health Medical Director Richard Brostrom yesterday said those who were given antibiotics against anthrax in last week's bioterrorism scare at the Pacific Medical Center should discontinue the medication, since the medicine may have some side effects. Forty persons were given ten tablets each of either Doxycycline or Ciproflaxin—two kinds of antibiotics against anthrax—when a woman went to the health facility's building for treatment last Thursday upon noticing rashes on her skin, Brostrom said. Brostrom issued the warning after a preliminary result of the laboratory testing of the substance indicated negative for anthrax.

\$356K earmarked for road projects

The Tenorio administration yesterday approved the reallocation of some \$356,399 for various road paving and road improvement projects on Saipan. This came about after Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio signed into law two bills—House Bill 12-304 and House Local Bill 12-46—authorizing the said reappropriation. Under House Bill 12-304, about \$106,399 that was left over from Public Law 9-24 will be realigned to pave the road from the Saipan International School to the Saipan International Airport. The local bill, meanwhile, reallocates some \$200,000 from the Developer Infrastructure Tax and \$50,000 from the slot machine licensing fees to pave and improve the Sadog Tasi and Chalan Kiya roads.



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REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS



This is to inform all Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC)-approved Contractors (including Tinian and Rota contractors) that we are currently updating our Approved Contractor Listing for calendar year 2011. In order for NMHC to extend your company's inclusion on our listing for another year, you must submit the documentations listed below. Those companies that are not on our list of approved contractors but wish to be included are likewise encouraged to submit the following:

1. Valid CNMI Business License
2. Current Financial Statements (certified by the principle executive officer and principle financial officer)
3. 2 Years Business Gross Revenue (BGR) Tax Returns
4. Clearance Letter from the Department of Labor
5. Certificate of Compliance from the Revenue & Taxation Office
6. Workmen's Compensation Policy
7. Name of Insurance Company(ies) Currently Dealing With
8. A list of on-going/completed projects showing name of project, start and completion dates, and contract amounts
9. At least three (3) reference letters from owners of the completed projects
10. List of vendors and suppliers and at least three reference letters from them
11. Company background
12. Articles of Incorporation & Company By-Laws, if applicable
13. Annual Report (Registrar of Corporations)

FAILURE TO SUBMIT THE ABOVE DOCUMENTS BY DECEMBER 15, 2010 WILL RESULT IN YOUR COMPANY'S ELIMINATION FROM OUR LIST OF "APPROVED CONTRACTORS."

NMHC encourages Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (MBE/WBE) to participate in this Request for Qualifications and that they will be afforded full opportunity to participate and will not be discriminated against on grounds of race, color, national origin, political affiliation, creed, sex, religion, age, familial status, or disability status.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

/s/ JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO

NMHC is an equal housing provider, lender and employer.

Library Friends seeks more active members

By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Library Friends is looking for interested individuals who are interested in becoming a part of an organization that provides assistance and support to the island's public library.

In an interview, Library Friends member Janice Sablan said membership and active participation continue to remain the biggest challenge for the group to have more activities to benefit the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library.

Library Friends, which be-

came a registered organization in 2002, has helped the public library in different ways, from programs to applying for a grant that built the Children of Our Homeland Library.

Sablan told *Saipan Tribune* during the Library Friends Book Sale on Saturday at the

public library in Susupe that the group used to have activities other than the book sale.

Since only Sablan and Library Friends president Maureen Sebangiol stay active in the group, Sablan said the book sale is the only fundraising activity that they do.

"The book sale is a big help for the Library Friends and the library itself. The money we raise is used to buy books, library supplies, and whatever materials needed for the library programs. That way, it supports

the library," she said.

According to Sablan, most of the books they put up for sale come from donations from the public. Some of them are extra copies at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library.

Sablan said the Library Friends Book Sale in April generated \$200 for the group. Last Saturday's book sale attracted hundreds of community members and raised over \$500.

"We need more people to do more activities and decide on how the money raised will be used to help the library. We try to help where we can," said Sablan who is a retired children's librarian at the public library.

Sablan said they are planning to hold another book sale in December to dispose of all the spare books that they have at the library.

To address membership problems, Sablan said they put out sign-up sheets for Library Friends during book sales.

Sablan added that she has also started to take part in the storytelling activity at the library where she hopes to promote

Library Friends to students and parents.

Sablan said individuals or groups who want to donate books for the library or for the book sale as well as those who want to become a part of the Library Friends can visit or call the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library for more information.



CLARISSA V. DAVID
From left, Library Friends president Maureen Sebangiol, member Janice Sablan, Joeten-Kiyu Public Library children's library associate Erlinda Naputi, and volunteer Steven Sablan during the Library Friends Book Sale last Nov. 13. The group, which became a registered organization in 2002, raised over \$500 through the fundraising activity that aims to support the state library.



BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy birthday to a loving friend, Ate Lydia Roldan! Wishing you good health, happiness and more birthdays to come! Lots of love from MK and friends.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Hyatt names '30 Room Nights' raffle winners

In October, Hyatt Regency Saipan kicked off its anniversary season by announcing its exciting raffle promotion. Hyatt said "Thank you" by allocating 30 room nights for 30 winner entries at \$30 plus tax per guest room. The 30 winners were selected from all the electronic en-

tries submitted within the period of Nov. 1-10, 2010.

The raffle winners are Mariko Fujita, Shabbir Shakir, Josephine Bernabe, Jeffrey Tomokane, Melinda Carrasco, Gary Liddle, Elsiana Taitano, Keolesther Buenpacifico, Mina Faith Fujihira, Rosemarie Lazaro,

Diane Zedde, Noriko Jim, Wellington Ang, Eric Mahinay.

Hyatt says the raffle promotion is a great opportunity for local residents to know the difference between a hotel and the Hyatt. Hyatt Regency thanks everyone who joined the raffle. Congratulations to all the winners! (PR)

INVITATION FOR BIDS WATER TASK FORCE IFB11-GOV-010

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lieutenant Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the CNMI Water Task Force, are soliciting sealed bids for the Installation of Puerto Rico Transmission and Distribution Line, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

A bid guarantee of 15 percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of the Treasury (T-Listed).

The bidder is required to submit with his proposal a copy of his CNMI Business License in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The Contractor will be required to submit payment and performance bonds from a US Treasury listed company. The Contractor will also be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal laws including the Davis Bacon Act.

This project is funded by a grant from the Office of Insular Affairs (OIA), Department of the Interior. The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the project approval from OIA.

The project consists, in general, but is not limited to:

- Conduct Construction Survey and Staking.
- Construct Permanent and Temporary Erosion Control measures.
- Perform Earthwork and Site Utilities.
- Install Air Relief Valve, Pressure Sustaining Valve, Flush Hydrant, Fire Hydrant, fittings, and connections to water mains at various locations.
- Install 1,500 linear feet of 6" diameter PVC C900 Distribution line and 1900 linear feet of 12" diameter PVC C900 Transmission line including Gate Valves and their connection to the Main Waterline.
- Modification of Existing Water Supply Pipes and other incidentals to complete the work per plans and specifications.
- Chlorination/Washing and Testing of New Waterlines.
- Demolition and Reconstruction of Asphalt Pavement.

A non-refundable payment of \$500 to CNMI Treasury is required for each set of Plans, Specifications, and Proposal Forms, available on or after November 1, 2010 at the Water Task Force Office, 1316 Anatahan Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan. A mandatory pre-bid conference for this project is scheduled at 10:00 a.m., on November 12, 2010, at the WTF Conference Room, Saipan. A project site visit will be made as a part of the Pre-Bid meeting.

All inquiries shall be in writing and addressed to **Pedro Sasamoto, Program Manager**, Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950 or faxed to (670) 664-2279. Inquiries must be received no later than 4:30 PM on November 11, 2010.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, contained in the CNMI Administrative Code, Title 70 Subchapter 70-30.3. Preference is not available to local bidders in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funds for this project.

Sealed bids must be marked **"IFB11-GOV-010"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 3:00 pm local time December 1, 2010. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 3:00 pm local time December 1, 2010, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than December 1, 2010, and must be received no later than December 13, 2010. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly open and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 3:00 pm local time, December 14, 2010. However, if no Notices of Intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 3:00 pm local time on December 2, 2010.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Benigno R. Fitial
Governor and Contracting Officer

Herman S. Sablan
Director, Procurement and Supply



WATER TASK FORCE

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS RFP 11-GOV-005

Project Manager For Water Task Force Projects

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos through the Water Task Force, are soliciting sealed Proposals from qualified individuals or firms for Professional Services for Project Manager for the Water Task Force on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project Scope of Work will be available on or after **October 25, 2010** at the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan.

All questions concerning this proposal shall be submitted in writing no later than **4:30 PM, November 1, 2010** to Pedro Sasamoto, WTF Program Manager (facsimile) number: (670) 664-2279.

This project is funded by a grant from the Office of Insular Affairs (OIA), Department of the Interior. Award of this project is contingent upon receipt of project approval from OIA.

The proposal procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 70-30.3-305. Preference per Public Law 15-95 as further amended by Public Law 15-118 is not available in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funds for this project.

Proposals must be sealed and marked **"Project Manager", RFP 11- GOV-005**. One (1) original and four (4) copies must be submitted. Proposals must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply, at Lower Base, Saipan, no later than **3:00 pm, November 24, 2010 (CNMI local time)**.

The CNMI reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if to do so will be in the best interest of the CNMI. All proposals shall become the exclusive property of the CNMI government.

/s/ **Benigno R. Fitial**
Governor

/s/ **Herman S. Sablan**
Director, Procurement & Supply

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR

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AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

Development economics

By JAIME VERGARA

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune's Opinion Section.



We found ourselves Friday as a guest lecturer before foreign students of the Shenyang Aerospace University expounding on the nature of "development economics." The academic treatment of the subject is a straight-forward account of European mercantilist history translating into nation-state economics aped by newly independent countries, remaining in a relationship of commonwealth to a former colonial empire. Development economics would be best characterized as "appendage" economics where a smaller political unit is attached to the larger machinations of its former or informal masters.

In the CNMI, save for the illusion that the garment industry was an act of self-determination rather than just an extension of the globalization of economics, the particulars as described on the foregoing are similar.

The Philippines' relationship to the United States through the American Chamber of Commerce, the State Department, and the Department of Defense, is a good example of a former colony granted political independence with a gun-on-the-temple coercion that economic processes be externally determined elsewhere. This was a precondition of the granting of Philippine Independence of 1946.

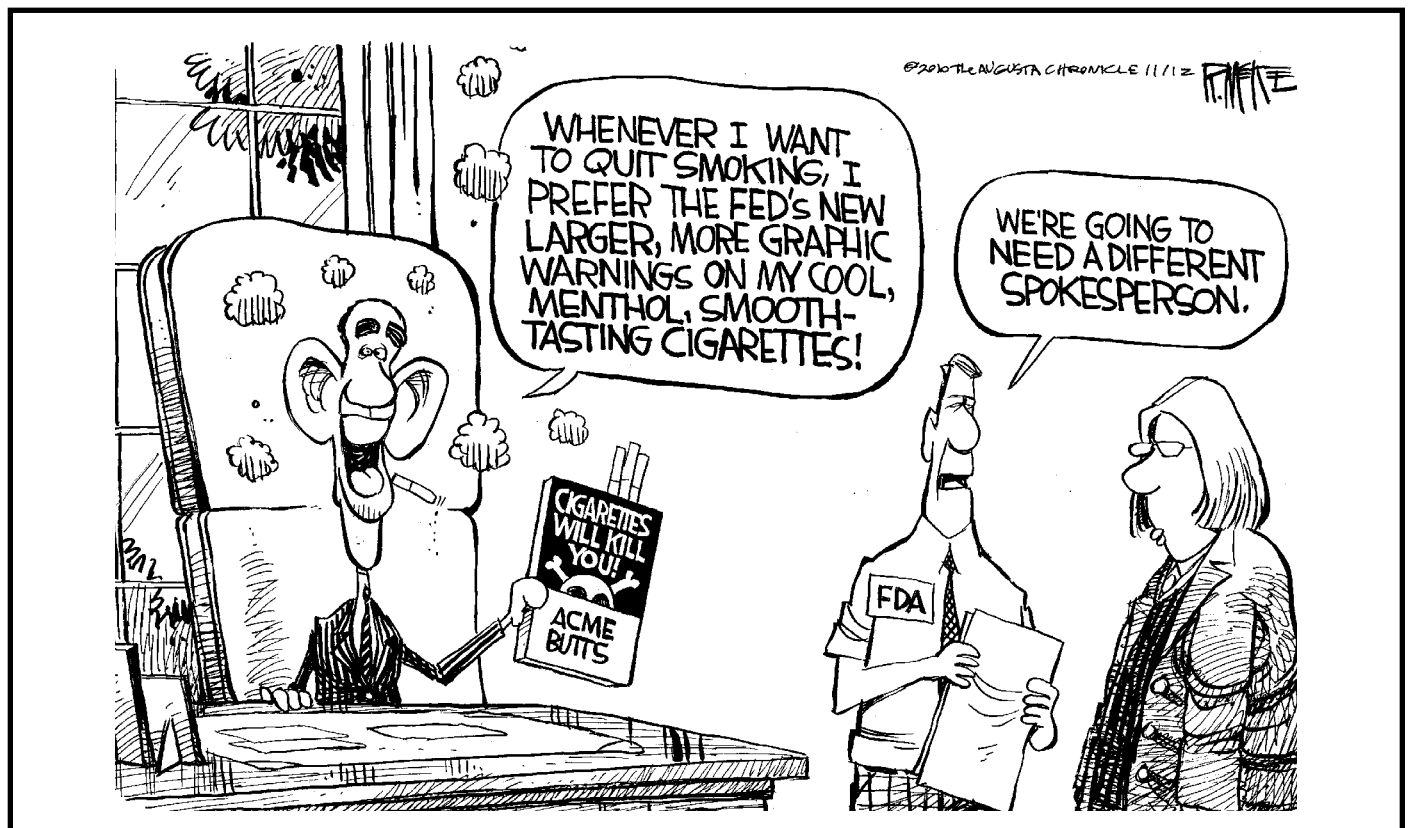
Two measures defined that relationship: the Parity Agreement where U.S. businesses had the same access to the exploitation and extraction of the nation's natural resources, and the 99-year military bases agreement. These economic and political instruments have been refined since but the value systems of both have pretty much guided the neocolonial culture of my upbringing, and the continuing contradictions that livens up as well as plague the nation's attempt at a self-sufficiency and self-reliance.

China's economic development has emerged as a model combining communal values, socialist ideology, and capitalist practices since the 1980s. The preeminence of China's economy in the global stage is getting attention from the recent G20 summit in Seoul, the APEC Ministerial meeting in Yokohama, and the Portuguese-speaking economies Forum in Macao (*Aoman*) concurrently being held in nearby Guangdong, simultaneous with the grand opening of the high profile 16th Asian Games in Guangzhou displayed with abundant Sino glee.

It would, of course, be megalomania on our part to suggest that our little gig with foreign students in *Dong Bei* is in any way related to the current conversations on global economy happening elsewhere. Besides, our venue is a technical school focused on the science of aerodynamics, and perhaps, futurically, since China just recently unveiled photos of its projected landing site on the moon, it offers a bachelor's degree in International Trade and Economics in English. But we decided to divert the presentation away from national economies to the workings of the social process (www.imaginal.nl).

The makeup of our audience was predominantly West African, from Ghana of PanAfrican Kwame Nkrumah, to the crude oil filthy rich delta of the Niger, dubbed Nigeria by the wife of a British Administrator, with students from India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bangladesh and Pakistan. We had gotten our malaria-for-life and jaundice-indelible from Lake Lagos in the 80s so the lay of the land and its people is in our blood. We never made it to Accra though Dr. Nkrumah was one of our early heroes, nor Congo PM Patrice Lumumba's Kinshasa; the former deposed by CIA-supported forces six years after

See ECONOMICS on Page 13



Corruption: Being robbed by our own citizens

By ANTHONY PELLEGRINO

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Pellegrino is a longtime businessman in the CNMI and is the former president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.



Count the number of people who have gone to jail for stealing federal money and the number of people who have gone to jail for stealing local funds. Rarely have I heard of anyone going to jail for stealing local funds. Occasionally we hear about someone being tried for taking money from the government and going to jail. But the source of the money is U.S. federal money, not local funds.

Didn't we have a notorious case just last year involving one of our highest elected officials who made the mistake of stealing federal funds? There are also several other cases that I know of involving misuse of federal funds, but I don't recollect anyone going to jail involving stolen local funds. Oh, yes, there is an occasional case of a low-ranking employee caught cheating on a time card. So he gets a few days and scolded and that is it.

We have an honest and vigilant OPA. However the government has effectively defanged and declawed it, rendering the OPA weaker and sillier than a pussycat. I don't envy the OPA director's job. He and his staff are tasked with many requests for audits. The staff works hard and does an excellent job of finding out the truth.

Then when the OPA presents its findings, the government and its various agencies do nothing to rectify the wrongs revealed in the audits. They are either whitewashed or simply ignored. May we infer that the guilty parties are friends of friends so nothing can be done? After all, isn't it one family stealing from another family? Never mind that the rest of us have been betrayed.

Let's look at the OPA's track record and how the government co-operates in closing its findings. Audit recommendations tracked in 2008 totaled 49. Of the 49 audit recommendations, one was closed, and 48 remained either open or resolved. Of the 48 open or resolved recommendations, 42 were considered delinquent.

Delinquent recommendations increased by 12 (40 percent) in 2007 to 42 in 2008. There is insufficient space in this article to go into details but please go to www.opacnmi.com and see for yourself how we are being cheated and the government doesn't care.

The irony of all this hard work of uncovering fraud and misuse of tax money is that the more a thorough job the OPA does, the more complaints the director receives about how overpaid he is. Meanwhile we close our eyes and forget that the OPA is one of the few truly independent watchdogs we have. It is seriously concerned about keeping our government and community clean and honest.

Let's look at several OPA audits and see the results. For example, the OPA did an audit on the Department of Labor 2005. It seems that \$330,835 of nonresident workers application fees was uncollected from Company A and \$181,575 uncollected from Company B. This amounts to \$512,410! Where do those two cases stand today?

The latest report states that the ongoing investigation is nearly complete. The Secretary of Labor will keep OPA apprised of any new developments. Excuse me. This after eight years? What new developments should we be expecting? Forgive my cynicism. I am too old to be fooled. Why hasn't this case been resolved?

You will enjoy this one. In 2000, an OPA audit of the CPA-NMIRF revealed improper payments to two former CPA officials for retirement benefits and compensatory time claimed in the amount of \$126,730. Case status?

Recoupment of one former CPA official's benefits will commence if and when he is re-employed by the government. For the

other former CPA official, pursuant to a stipulation, the case will be returned to the administrative hearing process and a new Notice of Administrative Hearing will be issued. What does this mean? Will we ever recover the money from either person?

These are only two cases. There are many more that we could discuss. If one adds them up, they will total over \$7 million! I wonder how much more money has been stolen and not reported? But notice that all this stolen money is from local funds.

Let's add in the dollar value of stolen office supplies that employees take home. A ream of paper by the hundreds perhaps weekly. Dozens of other office supplies like pens. I bet over a year and with almost 5,000 employees on the payroll, I roughly estimate about several hundred thousand dollars.

How many useless junkets do government employees take annually? Then when the travelers come back who checks their travel vouchers and per diem pay receipts? This also adds to hundreds thousands of dollars annually. But why am I harping on all this stealing and corruption in the government at this time?

Because the government is short of funds, it is seriously considering raising various license and service fees to generate extra money. Before we think of raising any fees, we must consider the amount of stolen money that is neglected being collected and the amount of money being wasted.

Look at it this way. If I pour water into a cup with a hole in the bottom, regardless of the amount of water I pour in from the top, the water will simply drain out and the cup is never filled. So it is with shortage of funds. Stop the useless drain. Aggressively pursue what is owed the government and stop the petty stealing. When all the leaks have been sealed, now if there is real need for additional money, then begin to raise fees.

Corruption is the getting away with things we know to be wrong. Corruption is corrosive—little by little our values and principals in life erode until only the shell of a man is left. The rest has been eaten away. We will have sold our souls and that of our fellow citizens for a few lousy dollars. As T.S. Elliot, the famous American poet, put it: "We are the hollow men."

There are four roads that lead to corruption:

- 1) Self-interest—things that we want regardless of right or wrong. We want them;
- 2) Self-protection—things that we don't want, regardless of right or wrong, we will do anything to avoid them.
- 3) Self-deception—a refusal to see a situation clearly, our view is the only correct one.
- 4) Self-righteousness—the end justifies the means attitude, the path of all tyrants.

See CORRUPTION on Page 13

EDITORIAL POLICY

The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Dodging the pension obligation bond bullet

The Friday, Nov. 12 edition of the *Marianas Variety* quotes NMI Superior Court Judge Govendo as stating in an article headlined, “Gov’t debt to Retirement Fund: \$317M,” that “he expects the pension obligation bond initiative, which voters recently rejected, to be on the ballot every year for some time into the future.”

He may be right—but I wouldn’t bet on it if the disastrous experience with Puerto Rico’s pension obligation bond is examined. Besides, not much time is left for another vote before the Fund is broke.

Perhaps some in the NMI still harbor the opinion that there is still hope for a pension obligation bond sometime in the future to save the Retirement Fund from collapse in a few years.

In my opinion a POB is not the best solution to the Fund member’s problems anyway.

Certain board members (not all) of the Commonwealth Retiree’s Association, speaking only for themselves and not as representing the majority of association members, took it upon themselves to voice support for the issuance of a bond as did also the board of trustees of the Retirement Fund, judging from their use of retiree’s money to support a CNMI-wide campaign in an attempt to influence voter decisions to vote for a Fund “bailout.” But in reality it turned out to be a “fail-out” and overwhelmingly rejected.

Perhaps those who supported the bond should have first considered the mess Puerto Rico is in with their misguided pension obligation bond. The similarities between the retirement fund in Puerto Rico and the NMI are uncanny. In many ways they are as alike as “two peas in a pod,” as my dear sweet granny would say.

At the next status hearing in Superior Court set for Feb. 9, 2011, it would be interesting if the judge would inquire for the record if anyone charged with the fiduciary responsibility for the NMI’s Fund ever bothered to make an inquiry of Puerto Rico authorities concerning their unfortunate experience with their POB.

The reasons for Puerto Rico’s difficulties with their POB is public knowledge, which could have been revealed by a simple email or telephone call. Why wasn’t this obvious inquiry made? Or was it only to be ignored?

Someone write it on the wall for a Fe. 9 reminder. Another status hearing—but still no substantial movement toward compelling the government to pay what it owes the retirees.

I mentioned the Puerto Rico experience with their bond in a *Saipan Tribune* article as far back as April 16 of this year, titled: “What A Difference Nine Years Made—Or Did It? —Another Look At Pension Obligation Bonds.” Check it out in the paper’s archives. Also for those interested in the Puerto Rico pension bond fiasco the full report is online at <http://www.senadopr.us/Informes%20de%20Agencias/13409.pdf>.

Apparently few at the Fund—or the CRA—bothered to acquaint themselves with the experience of that Caribbean Commonwealth which, as it turns out, has learned the hard way of having “been there—done that” and now regrets having ever sought a solution to their fund’s problems through the issuance

of a POB.

But in the NMI the wheel had to be attempted to be reinvented. As a friend remarked, “Fortunately the retirees and the taxpayers ‘dodged the bullet’ when voter’s rejected the bond initiative.” Who was it who said, “Good judgment comes from experience --- and experience comes from poor judgment?”

Here are a few pertinent points from the extremely revealing, although technical, results of the Puerto Rico bond analysis titled: “Review of the Events and Decisions That Have Led to the Current Financial Crisis of the Employees Retirement System (ERS) of the Government of Puerto Rico” as prepared by the private firm of Conway Mackenzie, Inc., October 2010.

The detailed report states (p.12)—“the {Puerto Rico bond} transaction was subject to significant risks among others, the risk of a failed or undersubscribed offering and the {Retirement} Systems potential inability to generate arbitrage on the POB proceeds.”

“...it appears these risks were not fully understood or vetted by the decision-makers prior to undertaking the bond issuance strategy and several of these risks actually materialized. Given the importance, magnitude and potential risks associated with a failed strategy, by not understanding or vetting the risks associated with the POB transaction, it appears the Employee Retirement System management and the Board of Trustees...did not exercise due care.”

Economic note: “Arbitrage” is the term for the spread between the difference of interest paid to bond holders and the interest earned by the Fund on invested bond proceeds.” In other words, one would not gain if the interest paid to bond holders was 6 percent and the interest earned by investing bond money was, say, 3 percent. “Positive” arbitrage is the term used in such transactions, always with the hope of profiting from the difference in interest paid to one entity (bond holders) as compared with the interest earned from another entity (for example, stock market earnings for the Fund). But it doesn’t always work out to the benefit of the invested retirement fund bond proceeds.

Do I hear thee say—“but that’s a gamble!” You got that right. Check out my article in the *Tribune* archives of April 27, 2010.

The Puerto Rico report (p.-14) concluded: “the POB issuance is currently costing the Employee Retirement System more than what is it is actually earning on invested proceeds. Our findings indicate this occurred because ERS management and the Board of Trustees ignored market conditions and were subsequently constrained and blinded by the necessity to utilize cash proceeds to fund cash requirements of the System. This lack of understanding is not reasonable and may not fall within the general standards of fiduciary responsibilities expected by a board of trustees.”

The independent consulting firm’s report continued: “In analyzing management’s decision to enter into POB transactions, we found no basis for the initial assumption made that such a strategy would improve the funded status of Puerto Rico’s Employee Retirement System.

“This could imply a lack of understanding of the true impacts

By **WILLIAM H. STEWART**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

William H. Stewart is an economist, historian, and military cartographer.



of the bond transaction on the Employee Retirement System by management and the Board of Trustees when they made the decision to enter into the POB transaction.

“The POB transaction has resulted in a flawed execution of a failed strategy. The POB transaction has negatively impacted the ERS and the {Puerto Rico} Government, in general.” P-15

As for the NMI, “dodging the bullet” is an understatement.

I’m not prepared to state unequivocally that the Puerto Rico experience with their POB is what would have befallen the NMI’s retirement plan had the recent initiative been approved, but I will say the Puerto Rico experience should have been a harbinger at the very beginning of the public education effort of the potential for failure and should have certainly provided an indicative signal of caution. I also believe many of the proponents for issuing a POB were probably unacquainted with the potential hazards of such effort.

As it turned out it appears those within the majority who voted on the issue did so by voting their pocketbook and as such were in no mood to sanction such financial risk.

As for the solution to the deteriorating financial condition of the NMI Retirement Fund and the dire future in store for 6,000 fund members (or several thousand families), it is painfully obvious to me that there is little hope the government will pay what it owes the Fund as determined by the June 29 2009, judgment of the Superior Court (CA # 06-0367).

There is a very effective method available to the NMI’s central government for nonpayment and that is 1 CMC, section 7207, which controls what funds may be disbursed to satisfy court judgments. Under this statute only appropriated funds may be used for settlements and awards, “no court may require the disbursement of funds from the Commonwealth Treasury or order the reprogramming of funds in order to provide for such disbursement. Any final judgment of a court shall be paid only pursuant to an item of appropriations for settlements and awards.”

And there you have it. Ever wonder why the central government hasn’t paid its debt to the retirees? It’s because it doesn’t have to as long as it hides behind the above law and/or “pass the buck” to the Legislature. The only court that can compel the NMI government to pay what it owes is the U.S. District Court. This was the reason for the lawsuit filed on June 25, 2009, (C A -#09-0023) to get under federal jurisdiction before the decision was rendered by the NMI’s local Superior Court several days later.

Chalan Pagyu Lugatta

Ti hu tuñgu’ kau pot gaige tano’ta siha gi chalan pagyu na ti man-fitme hit gi inebaluan yan disision asuntun linahyan siha. Kulan mampos ta añgoghu na otru para u famatinas disision gi asuntota.

Lau haye siña mamatinas antau na disision siha gi asuntota ni tautau tanu? Na ti hita ni petmanente na residenten este siha na islas?

Sige pagu i man-ma’gasta man-añañgon hafa mauleg para umachogue pot chafleg ekonomia. Namatman sa’ dispues de dies años deste ke basnag i ekonomia ‘nai ta repapara na guaha problema. De dios!

Un’ tiempu machuchuda tropan man-dañkulu na kometsiante ni yumute’ salape’ niha guine punta pot punta. Gi mediu nobenta siha na sakan, madiroga planun niha ‘nai matutuhon man-mabat-sala halom gi kotte pot asuntun Attikulu Dose.

‘Nai ha lagnosgue i Japan Airlines, tinatiye ni mahuchom industrial magagu, hinanau Continental Airlines para Guam yan otru siha man-dañkulu na kompania guine. Ha batsalan huy-oñg poku mas o’menos \$900 miyon pesos ni hagas lumilikuku’ guine. Estague na sinisede muna’ fañufa’ mattiñgan i ekonomian iya Marianas.

I motibu pot asuntun atkilon tanu ‘nai taya’ proteksion para i Hotel Nikko gi miyon na salape ni ha pega para mahatsan i hotel. I kuestion: Hafa na proteksion guaha para un’ dañkulu na kompania ni gumasta miyon pot miyon pesos gi un’ fasilidat ‘nai ha apase atkilon, kontodu tax bisnis yan sueddun empleauña siha?

Dimalas i Hotel Nikko guine na kausa. I dueñon este na hotel sumasaunau i Japan Airlines. Ti apmam ha disidi na u diño

Saipan. Ha bende kaboña ya ‘nai humuyuñg, gumupon huyoñg yan i batkon aireña Japan Airlines. Este na sinisede inespanta i pumalu man-dañkulu na kometsiante siha. Ensegidas madisidi na todú planon salape ni maseñala para Marianas umana’ para ensegidas. Masusede este gi ti apmam na tiempu.

Estague’ pagu ta padedese i mampos apenas man-dañkulu siha na kometsiante ni siña umayuda hit umadelanta i mampos bahu na kinalamten ekonomia pagu. Lastima! Lau palu pot chechu inosiente ‘sino imbidu sa’ mampos hit man-geftau umaminasa ayu siha na bisnis i debi mohon hita mismu ta protehe kumu patte gi komunidat Marianas.

I hiniyoñg man-dañkulu siha na bisnis dos pinadese ha patte hit: 1.) Ma’tot fondu gi ekonomia ‘nai tasosoda’ kontribusion tax para apas setbision publiku. 2.) Ma’tot chochu’ siha gi praibet ya esta ti siña man-ayuda gi ayu siha na tautauta i hagas man-manaligau offisiun niha.

Huñgan, bula un’ tiempu salape’ guine na esta ta batga hit na para siempre ayu siha na suette. Deste mediu nobenta siha na sakan basnag sin ditension. Kulan gima’ palasyu ni ta hatsa gi kanton unai. ‘Nai añglu’ i hanom tasi, poduñg ya madisgrana inai ya muna’lu tatte gi sagaña.

Finagchae’ finatton este na chinatsaga ni inatisa ni fotte na kustumbren imbidu gi entre hita ni tautau tanu. Debi ta fan seha tatte un’ ratu ya ta atan kau ti baban mañata yan diskuidu na ha palolopu’ hit pagu i didog na tiempun eskases. ‘Sino buente ta eskusa hit na i masusede pot gaige isлата siha gi chalan pagyu. Este na ira ta komprende na mampos abarambau (erratic) hinanau pagyu. Lau kau presisu na kontodu hita para tafan

By **JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

DelRosario is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune’s Opinion Section.



abarambau gi disposision asuntun linahyan?

■■■

Sige un’ sainan mame umaguagat na siña i natibu ha bende kantidan chodda gi metkau yan hotel siha. Hu ekuñgog ñaihon pot hagas lancheru.

Era ha fafama mabenden chodan loñg yan dama gi hotel siha. Hu ñañgon na memegaiña mañochochu Chequita Banana ni mames yan paire na aga’.






‘Nai hu esplikaye pot mattiempu guine gi tano’ta, mauleg na abisu hanae’-yu i amko. Ilegña, “Fananom aguon haya tat kumu kamute, suni, dagu, nika, mendioka yan kontodu gaddu’ sa’ este na tinanom ti linie’ i pagyu maseha ñgaian”.

Ha faisenyu kau ti man-chichichu tiau ‘sino manineñg bisita siha ginen Japon. Hu ñañgon na guseña mantikan makaro’ (mackerel) yan mapogsai na gamsun ni ginen Japon mismu. Ilegña, “Dios mihu sa’ kontodu na’niha machuchule’ ha’ mage guine sin konsiderasion gi peskadot natibu”. Hu dispensan maisa-yu’ antes de u fañila’ talu mechaña.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly sunny with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph. Highs around 88.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 88° ▼ 77°	▲ 87° ▼ 77°	▲ 87° ▼ 77°	▲ 88° ▼ 77°	▲ 88° ▼ 77°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲ 88 ▼ 81
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲ 85 ▼ 78
Yap	Rain	▲ 88 ▼ 77
Chuuk	Showers	▲ 83 ▼ 77
Pohnpei	Showers	▲ 87 ▼ 72
Kosrae	Rain	▲ 87 ▼ 75
Majuro	Rain	▲ 86 ▼ 75

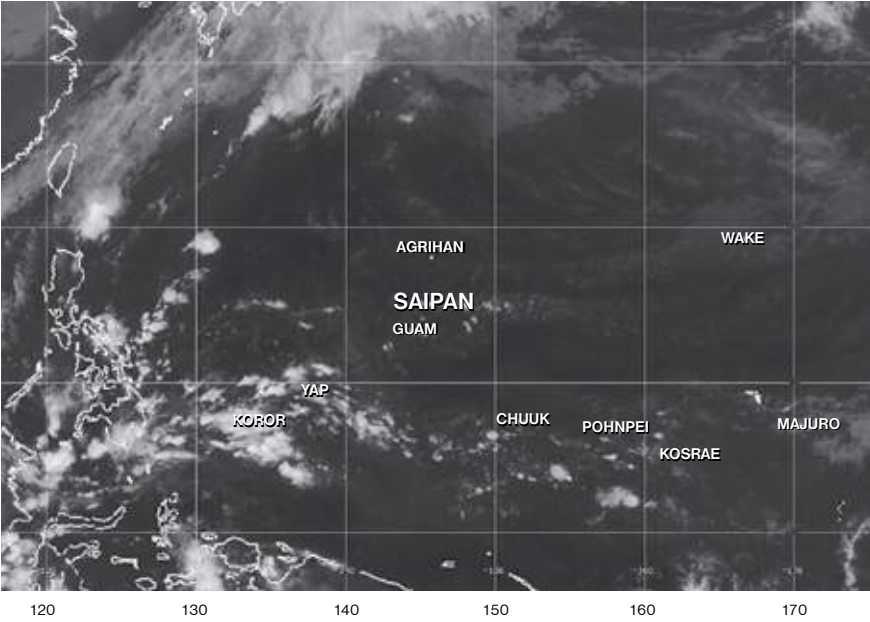
Around The Globe

Auckland	Mostly Sunny	▲ 67 ▼ 58
Beijing	Sunny	▲ 54 ▼ 28
Hong Kong	Showers	▲ 72 ▼ 55
Honolulu	Sunny	▲ 83 ▼ 72
London	Partly Cloudy	▲ 47 ▼ 41
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲ 76 ▼ 53
Manila	Thundershowers	▲ 86 ▼ 75
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲ 63 ▼ 52
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲ 80 ▼ 68
New York	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 59 ▼ 49
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	▲ 57 ▼ 47
Paris	Showers	▲ 51 ▼ 41
Pusan	Mostly Sunny	▲ 55 ▼ 40
Rome	Partly Cloudy	▲ 71 ▼ 54
Salem	Showers	▲ 56 ▼ 44
San Francisco	Sunny	▲ 72 ▼ 55
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	▲ 50 ▼ 32
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	▲ 57 ▼ 47
Washington, DC	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 63 ▼ 50

Tides

Saipan Harbor				
1:44 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.3 Feet	
8:25 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.5 Feet	
3:26 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet	
10:07 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.8 Feet	

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2010

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

An upper-level low centered near 18N132E is triggering a few thunderstorms well north of Koror within 60 miles of a line from 11N131E to 14N131E to 15N133E to 18N133E. A surface trough extends southeastward from 11N136E to 5N140E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are found between 5N and 12N from 135E to 142E including near Yap. Another surface trough extends northeastward from 2N161E to 5N165E to 8N166E. Scattered showers are occurring within an area bounded by a line from 2N154E to 2N170E to 8N166E to 8N161E back to 2N154E. This area includes Kosrae but is southeast of Pohnpei and southwest of Kwajalein. A third trough east of Majuro stretching from 5N175E to beyond 10N180 is generating scattered showers between 5N and 9N from 172E to 179E.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:19 AM	5:44 PM
Tuesday	6:19 AM	5:44 PM
Wednesday	6:20 AM	5:44 PM
Thursday	6:20 AM	5:44 PM
Friday	6:20 AM	5:44 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	1:18 PM	12:45 AM
Tuesday	1:53 PM	1:31 AM
Wednesday	2:28 PM	2:17 AM
Thursday	3:05 PM	3:04 AM
Friday	3:44 PM	3:53 AM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOVEMBER 2, 2010

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM				GUAM-SAIPAN			
C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily	C09316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
C09313	7:55am	8:45am	3, 6	C09596	6:35am	7:25am	3, 6
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7	C09596	7:00am	7:50am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7	C09600	10:05am	10:55am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7	C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09605	6:20pm	7:10pm	Daily	C09604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily
C09599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily	C09606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:10am	8:45am	Daily	DL298	10:25am	3:05pm	Daily
DL285	6:40am	9:15am	Daily	DL286	3:50pm	8:25pm	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily	DL288	8:00pm	12:30am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5	OZ607	9:10pm	2:20am+1	4, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ604	2:10am	6:00am	1	OZ605	9:00am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ604	2:40am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ603	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
OZ606	3:20pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7	OZ603	8:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6	FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ604/701	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ704/605	12:10am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ604/701	2:40am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN				via ICN
C09317/891	2:45am	9:45am	3, 6 via GUM	DL172/286	7:55am	8:25pm	Daily via NRT
DL285/173	6:40am	10:15pm	Daily via NRT	C0890/9606	10:55am	8:50pm	3, 6 via GUM
C09313/893	7:55am	10:10pm	3 via GUM-Palau	OZ702/603	1:10pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
C09603/933	3:05pm	8:40pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7 via GUM	OZ702/603	1:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C09603/893	3:05pm	10:10pm	5 via GUM-Palau	C0892/9596	9:55pm	7:25am+1	3 via GUM-Palau
OZ606/703	3:20pm	11:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7 ICN	C0892/9596	9:55pm	7:50am+1	6 via GUM-Palau
C09599/PR111	9:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	PR110/C0596	10:00pm	7:25am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
				C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	1, 2, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
				C0934/9596	11:25pm	7:50am+1	3, 5 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG				HONG KONG-SAIPAN			
OZ604/721	2:10am	12:00am	1 via ICN	OZ724/605	12:30am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ604/721	2:40am	12:00am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN				via ICN
C09603/909	3:05pm	9:25pm	1, 5 via GUM	OZ722/603	1:30pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ606/723	3:20pm	10:35pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ722/603	1:30pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
				C0910/9596	10:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 5 via GUM
Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The <i>Saipan Tribune</i> is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)							

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				FRE 113	11:40	11:50	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
FRE 300	17:50	18:20	Daily				
Saipan-Rota				Tinian-Saipan			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
				FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

O P I N I O N

Letters to the Editor

Education is key

Kudos to Stanley Torres for having the integrity and courage to stand up and point out the utter folly of marijuana prohibition, which was foisted on Saipan and the rest of the world by overzealous American bureaucrats.

To anyone who genuinely believes that prohibiting marijuana is an effective way to keep it away from teens, have a look at the U.S. government's own data for (illegal) marijuana and (legal) tobacco. According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse, the percentage of 12th-graders who said they used marijuana in the last year has fluctuated wildly between 20 percent and 50 percent, with a figure of 32.8 percent for 2009.

Meanwhile, cigarette use by teens has fallen steadily. In 1975, 40 percent of high school seniors said they had smoked cigarettes in the last month. By 2009, this number had dropped to 20.1 percent. This was accomplished without prohibiting tobacco, but by putting strict rules on cigarette advertising and educating teens about the serious health risks of smoking.

If people want to protect teens from pot, they should stop wasting money arresting adults who prefer smoking pot to getting drunk (a real public health threat) and put that money into anti-drug education and treatment.

Anders Froehlich
via e-mail

ECONOMICS

From Page 10

the nation's independence from Britain, and the 34-year old prime minister eliminated-murdered with Belgian/CIA collusion. (We were at an Allende village in Pinochet's Chile prior to that period so CIA collusion in internal politics is well documented and more than just a radical oxidant's ranting!)

More than a decade ago, we wanted to start an islandwide conversation on Saipan through the social program of the United Methodist Church and the Marianas Resource Center on the economic direction of the Commonwealth, already cognizant of the fact that the garment industry was on the way out by default with the WTO easing of free trade among its members, removing the advantage of tariff-free movement of CNMI products to the U.S. market. But it became clear that the political mood was for bleeding to the last the tail drippings of an industry that heavily exploited a captive alien labor, with a short-sighted and frenzied business

sector, and the host accountability and auditing governmental structures lackadaisical in their monitoring roles.

Our intent was not formal Washington, DC-type of economic planning, though Jeff Schorr's Department of the Interior was agency-friendly. We wanted to "act and change" at the local level, in this case, the village of Oleai, where we relocated the symbolic and study life of the Church. The effort was stillborn; the congregation was not ready to see its life beyond the conventional forms of religious piety, and the resident clergy was asked by superiors to decide whether he wanted to remain a man-of-the-cloth or be a social activist!

Thank God for small favors. We ended up writing articles, instead. Bill Stewart, retired economist of this page, once asked if we might consider segueing to higher education beyond ushering into academic cognition early 6th grade puberty strugglers. The Nigerian and Nepalese students who lingered after our presentation Friday addressed us as "Professor." There's your answer, Bill.

CORRUPTION

From Page 10

We must demand that the government expose these parasites and force them to make restitution. To do any less is to admit that all of us—the government and us—are a party to all the corruption and we condone it.

If I sound as a moralist, than so be it. It is time that we stand up to the corrupt acts committed by our fellow citizens. Become incensed at this outrage of not chasing after the corruptors by the government! Speak up! Demand action! Expose and punish the corruptors now! If not, we should be taxed higher and higher. It will be our fault and we deserve it.

To the Legislature: Please do

not raise any taxes and fees until all the unpaid and uncollected money due the CNMI is recovered. After that is done and there aren't sufficient funds, only then increase the fees and taxes. Why punish honest citizens who pay their dues when the cheaters get away with their corruption? Let's play fair!

Also tell us and show us how you will be using the money. Will it be to increase personnel or to increase government services?

Let me end by recalling the words of former President Dwight D. Eisenhower when he reminds us: "Without a moral and spiritual awakening there is no hope in us."

WAKE UP! STRIKE BACK! JAIL THE CROOKS! BASTA! STOP THE CORRUPTION NOW!

Stinking lies

People need to remember that marijuana prohibition was passed on the basis of racist fictions and claims of ultra violence.

"Marijuana influences Negroes to look at white people in the eye, step on white men's shadows and look at a white woman twice." (Hearst newspapers nationwide, 1934)

"There are 100,000 total marijuana smokers in the U.S., and most are Negroes, Hispanics, Filipinos and entertainers. Their satanic music, jazz and swing, result from marijuana use. This marijuana can cause white women to seek sexual relations with Negroes, entertainers and any others."—Federal Bureau of Narcotics director Harry J. Anslinger.

"...the primary reason to outlaw marijuana is its effect on the degenerate races"—Federal Bureau of Narcotics director Harry J. Anslinger, 1930

"Marijuana is an addictive drug which produces in its users insanity, criminality, and death." "Marijuana is the most violence causing drug in the history of mankind." "[Smoking] one [marijuana] cigarette might develop a homicidal mania, probably to kill his brother." (see US Government Propaganda To Outlaw Marijuana, <http://www.druglibrary.org/schaffer/hemp/taxact/t3.htm>)

These stinking lies have been used against the citizens of Saipan since joining the United States in 1986.

Ralph Givens
Daly City, CA

LOCAL

Army Reserve to host TRICARE town hall meetings on Saipan

The 9th Mission Support Command's Theater Support Group is scheduled to host TRICARE town hall meetings for TRICARE providers and beneficiaries on Saipan, Nov. 19-21.

All providers and beneficiaries are invited to attend.

The town hall sessions will be separated into two parts: one for providers and one for beneficiaries.

The town hall for providers is slated for 10am, Nov. 19, at the U.S. Army Reserve Center.

All current TRICARE providers and prospective providers are welcome and encouraged to attend.

On Nov. 20-21, another town hall session will be held with a focus on the beneficiaries. This event will be at the American Memorial Theater starting at 10am both days.

During the sessions, a specialist from the TRICARE Pacific Headquarters in Okinawa will discuss the new overseas contract pertaining to Saipan and provide information about

using programs such as the "TRICARE 4 You" website, TRICARE Reserve Select, TRICARE Retired Reserve, etc.

After the presentations, the TRICARE representative will be available to meet with providers and beneficiaries one-on-one by appointment to discuss any further support needed from TRICARE.

Contact Staff Sgt. Henry Pangelinan at the U.S. Army Reserve Center at (670) 322-4167 to schedule an appointment. (PR)

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

PTSA meeting at SSSHS set

To all parents and legal guardians of Saipan Southern High School students, there will be a PTA meeting on Wednesday, Nov. 17, 2010, at 6pm to 7pm in the Manta café.

Term I report cards are scheduled for pickup on Thursday, Nov. 18, 2010, from 3pm to 6pm at the counseling office. All students will be released at 1pm. (PR)

Navy to conduct training on Warning Area-517

SANTA RITA, Guam—The Navy will conduct training on Warning Area-517 on Nov. 16-17 from 8am to 5pm.

The public—especially fisherman, commercial pilots and marine tour operators—are advised to stay clear from these areas during the times and dates indicated.

W-517 is an irregular shaped polygon comprising of 14,000 nautical square miles of airspace that begins south of Guam

and extends south-southwest in international waters. W-517 supports surface and aerial gunnery, missiles, and laser exercises. This will affect fishing in the vicinity of Santa Rosa Reef and Galvez Bank. (USN)

Kagman High sets 'Freshmen Literacy Night'

Kagman High School is hosting the "Freshmen Literacy

Night" in coordination with the Parent Teacher Student Association during the monthly meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 16, from 5pm to 6pm, in the school cafeteria. Important PTSA, school and freshmen class matters will be discussed. The freshmen class counselor will be available for inquiries as well. Should you have any questions, call Kagman High School at 664-3780. (PR)


**Procurement And Supply
CNMI Government**


INVITATION TO BID

ITB NO.: ITB11-DPS-016
Submission/Opening Date: November 24, 2010 • Time: 10:00 a.m.

"PURCHASE OF THREE (3) ALUMINUM ROLL UP DOORS TO INCLUDE REMOVAL AND INSTALLATION FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY—BOATING SAFETY SECTION"

Copies of the specifications may be picked up at the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base Dr., Saipan, during regular working hours.

This is a federally funded project, as such local preference is not available because its use is prohibited by federal law granting funding for this project.

/s/ AMBROSIO T. OGUMORO
Acting Commissioner, Dept. of Public Safety

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, P&S


**Procurement And Supply
CNMI Government**


INVITATION TO BID

ITB NO.: ITB11-DPL-011
Submission/Opening Date: November 26, 2010 • Time: 10:00 a.m.

"OFFICE SPACE RENTAL FOR DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS—TINIAN BRANCH"

Copies of the specifications may be picked up at the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base Dr., Saipan, during regular working hours.

Preference is available to US Citizens or Permanent Residents as per Public Law 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118 and must be submitted with the bid if preference is claimed.

The lessor must comply with CNMI Public Law 15-23, Article 5, Section 8652 (A)-(D)

/s/ OSCAR M. BABAUTA
Secretary, Dept. of Public Lands

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, P&S


**Procurement And Supply
CNMI Government**


INVITATION TO BID

ITB NO.: ITB11-DPS-017 (A)(B)(C)
Submission/Opening Date: November 24, 2010 • Time: 10:30 a.m.

"PURCHASE OF ONE (1) 150HP 2-STROKE OUTBOARD MOTOR CLOCKWISE ROTATION, PURCHASE OF ONE (1) 150HP 2-STROKE OUTBOARD MOTOR COUNTER CLOCKWISE ROTATION, PURCHASE OF ONE (1) TWIN 200HP INBOARD MOTOR ENGINES TO INCLUDE REMOVAL AND INSTALLATION FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY—BOATING SAFETY SECTION"

Copies of the specifications may be picked up at the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base Dr., Saipan, during regular working hours.

This is a federally funded project, as such local preference is not available because its use is prohibited by federal law granting funding for this project.

/s/ AMBROSIO T. OGUMORO
Acting Commissioner, Dept. of Public Safety

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, P&S


**Procurement And Supply
CNMI Government**


INVITATION TO BID

ITB NO.: ITB11-DOF/REV-020
Submission/Opening Date: November 24, 2010 • Time: 1:00 p.m.



PRINTING OF THE 2010 FORMS AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR W-2CM AND OS-3710 FOR THE DIVISION OF REVENUE AND TAXATION OFFICE"

Copies of the specifications may be picked up at the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base Dr., Saipan, during regular working hours.

Preference is available to US Citizens or Permanent Residents as per Public Law 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118 and must be submitted with the bid if preference is claimed.

/s/ ROBERT A. SCHRACK
Secretary of Finance

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, P&S


**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**


**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP11-OHS-001**

SUBMISSION: NOVEMBER 30, 2010 • TIME: 3:00 P.M.

"PURCHASE, DELIVERY AND INSTALLATION OF AN EMERGENCY BACKUP GENERATOR SYSTEM FOR THE CNMI'S EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER"

COPIES OF THE RFP PACKAGE MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY IN LOWERBASE, SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

A MANDATORY SITE VISIT WILL TAKE PLACE ON NOVEMBER 17, 2010 AT 9:30 A.M. FOR DIRECTIONS TO THE PROJECT SITE LOCATION, YOU MAY CONTACT THE OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY AT (670) 664-2216. FAILURE TO ATTEND THE MANDATORY SITE VISIT SHALL RESULT IN THE DISQUALIFICATION OF PROSPECTIVE OFFERORS.

THIS IS FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE, BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT.

/s/ PATRICK J. TENORIO
SPECIAL ASSISTANT FOR HOMELAND SECURITY

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

Igitol goes back to military service with Guam Guard

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Ever since Ivan Muna Igitol got out of the U.S. Army, he has always wanted to go back and

become part of active military service once again.

Igitol got what he wished for as he officially joined the Guam Army National Guard after his enlistment ceremony on Friday.

With his family by his side, Igitol was sworn in by First Lt. Jacob James Tatsumi Haught.

Igitol told *Saipan Tribune* that he will now be joining his daughter Brittney Igitol in

serving the Guam Army National Guard.

"It's very important for me to serve again because I love the freedom that our country is enjoying now. I will continue to fight for our freedom and for what we believe in to make America safe for us now and in the future," said Igitol.

Igitol, who works at the Commonwealth Health Center as a medical supply specialist/all hazards responder and certified hazmat instructor, believes he is better equipped to serve the military now. "I've always stayed in shape and I am smarter now than I was before," he added.

Aside from his daughter, Igitol said he has many family members that are on active

military service, including his nephew, Darrel Brennan, who is with the Marines.

Igitol said his family's support means a lot for him as he is sets out to serve his country anew. "I am glad that I have my family's backing. Without them, I don't think I will be here," he said.

Igitol's wife, Marie Salas Igitol, revealed her initial reluctance regarding her husband joining the military once more because of the risks that come with it.

But Marie said she gave Igitol her blessing and remains fully supportive of her husband's and her daughter's military endeavors.

"I am very, very proud to see

a father and daughter team in the National Guard. I think it's very rare to find a father-and-daughter team. I'm willing to support both of them. It's a commitment and a sacrifice," she said.

Marie added that once her husband gets deployed, she will take care of her three youngest children aged 9, 10, and 13.

Igitol's father, Pete "PJ" Igitol, said he has always been proud of his son since he first joined the military when he was 17.

To dispel fears about his son's deployment, Pete said their family always prays not only for his son's safety but for all American soldiers.

When asked about his message for his son, Pete said he must "keep his nose clean, hold your head high, and look forward to coming back home."



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Guam Army National Guard member Ivan Muna Igitol takes his oath from enlistment officer 1LT Jacob James Tatsumi Haught as family members look on during his enlistment ceremony last Nov. 12.

Judge orders partial translation of Japanese documents in Anaks case

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_deltorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Superior Court has ordered the former members of the homeowners association's board of directors for the housing complex known as Anaks Ocean View Hill Saipan in Puerto Rico to translate at their expense some of the 9,000 documents that were submitted as part of the case against them.

Many of the documents were entirely in the Japanese language.

Associate Judge Perry B. Inos ordered Anaks Resort Development Inc. and Saipan Shangrila Resort Inc. to translate from Japanese to the English language all titles and subtitles of the documents provided in their responses to the discovery requests of Dr. Norma S. Ada and nine other unit owners at Anaks Ocean View Hill.

Ada and the nine owners—Mary Asper, William R. Barineau, Maria H. Zarzosa, Willi Gutowski, Anita Gutowski, attorney Eric W. Smith, Rhoda Smith, Jack Hardy, and Shan Ping Bacon—sued Anaks Resort Development Inc. and Saipan Shangrila Resort Inc. and their officers for allegedly enriching themselves through fraud at the expense of the owners.

The plaintiffs are accusing the defendants of misappropriating the \$395,000 monthly maintenance fee.

According to court records, Ada and her co-plaintiffs had asked to see documents that detail how the monthly maintenance fee was spent.

On June 29, 2009 the Supe-

rior Court ordered a response to the plaintiffs' discovery request. In response, the defendants delivered over 9,000 documents, some of which were entirely in the Japanese language.

On Feb. 17, 2010 the Superior Court issued an order compelling defendants to "translate, at their expense, all documents provided in the responses to the discovery requests from Japanese to the English language."

After establishing the costs of complying with the order, the defendants filed a motion to reconsider part of the Feb. 17 order.

Inos partially granted the defendants' motion to reconsider based upon new evidence of the costs involved in complying with the translation requirements of the order.

Generally, Inos said, each party must bear their own pre-trial discovery costs, including the costs incurred to translate foreign documents.

Under NMI Rules of Civil Procedure 34, Inos said, a party is required to produce documents for inspection as they are kept in the ordinary course of business or organized and labeled to correspond to the requests.

In this case, Inos noted, the defendants concede that for many years Anaks failed to comply with the statute that requires all CNMI corporations to keep their business records in the English language.

"As a result, many of Anaks' corporate business records and documents are in the Japanese language," Inos said.

The defendants' argument is that since these documents are

in Japanese, it is necessary to translate all of them to ascertain their relevance and organize them to correspond to the discovery requests.

The defendants asked the court to relieve them of this burden and instead require the plaintiffs to extract the information they seek from financial reports created by a third party accounting firm.

Unfortunately, Inos said, these financial reports lack the specificity of showing how the monthly maintenance fee was spent and therefore fail to respond to the discovery requests.

Inos said it would be unfair to the plaintiffs for the court to allow the defendants to be relieved of their burden of production for failing to follow CNMI law.

However, the judge pointed out, requiring the defendants to pay for the translation of each document, irrespective of its value to the litigation, would impose a heavy financial burden.

Instead, Inos said he chooses a more equitable approach by requiring defendants to translate only titles and subtitles, from Japanese to English, to significantly decrease their translation costs.

Inos said this requirement would allow defendants to organize the documents in a manner that complies with the NMI Rules of Civil Procedure.

"Should the plaintiffs wish to translate the documents further, it would be at their own cost, which could be taxed on defendants should the plaintiffs ultimately prevail upon final adjudication," the judge added.

Students rise to the challenges of 'Zombie Prom'

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Thespians of the Western Pacific Islands staged a musical dubbed *Zombie Prom* from Nov. 12 to 14 at Charley's Cabaret of Pacific Islands Club in San Antonio.

Zombie Prom is a musical written by John Dempsey and Dana Rowe that takes place at the Enrico Fermi High School during the 1950's.

The story is about Jonny Warner, a senior student who stood up against principal Delilah Strict and falls in love with Toffee. Toffee's parents, however, disapproves of the relationship, causing Toffee to break up with Jonny. Because of the breakup, Jonny decides to plunge into a pool of nuclear waste. After three weeks, Jonny shows up as a nuclear-green zombie who wants to attend the senior prom with his love.

The show was directed by Marianas High School students Craig Hart, Dowen Jocson, and Chiantee Rosete.

Twelfth grader Jocson said *Zombie Prom* was a student-run play. "From the sets to the props to the decorations, everything was

all student produced," she said.

Jocson, who has directed TWPI plays, said this was the first time she directed a show with a rock band accompaniment.

"It's really hard connecting to the cast and the rock band," she said.

Through this experience, Jocson hopes to improve her skills working with a rock band for another theater production in the future.

11th grader Hart said directing a play for the first time was very challenging.

"It was much more challenging than I expected, but we stuck it through," he said, adding that among the challenges he encountered include casting and having the actors learn the music and dances.

Hart said his most favorite part of the production was being with the actors, whom he described as good and fun people.

"We all got really close to each other over the past two months that we rehearsed for the play," he said.

Despite the challenges, Hart said he plans to direct another production after learning a lot of do's and don'ts from his first directorial experience.

Rosete, who is also an 11th grader, described her directorial debut as very challenging.

"I did not think it would be this hard. The most challenging aspect was working with such a big cast and teaching every single one of them the choreography and singing but I had so much fun," she said.

Rosete said she particularly loved the Expose scene of Anna Rose Deleon Guerrero and John Darag.

"They are such great performers and it's such an honor for me to work with these people," she said.

After this directorial experience, Rosete hopes to direct a classic play like *Hamlet* in the future.

Jane Mack, TWPI board member, said she is proud of all the cast and crew of *Zombie Prom* who all worked hard to present the musical over the weekend.

"Half of the cast has been sick, including three out of the four leads. A lot of the major support kids have been out sick. But they have managed to put together a show. It's a fun show and I hope the audience enjoyed it," she said.



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Jonny Warner, played by Matthew Lopez, is the nuclear-green zombie character in *Zombie Prom*. The musical written by John Dempsey and Dana Rowe was presented by the Thespians of the Western Pacific Islands last Nov. 12-14 at the Charley's Cabaret of Pacific Islands Club.

Business

Asian-Pacific leaders vow to work for freer trade

YOKOHAMA (AP)—Asian-Pacific leaders endorsed a blueprint for future growth Sunday that calls for pushing ahead with free trade agreements and rolling back protectionist measures put in place during the financial crisis.

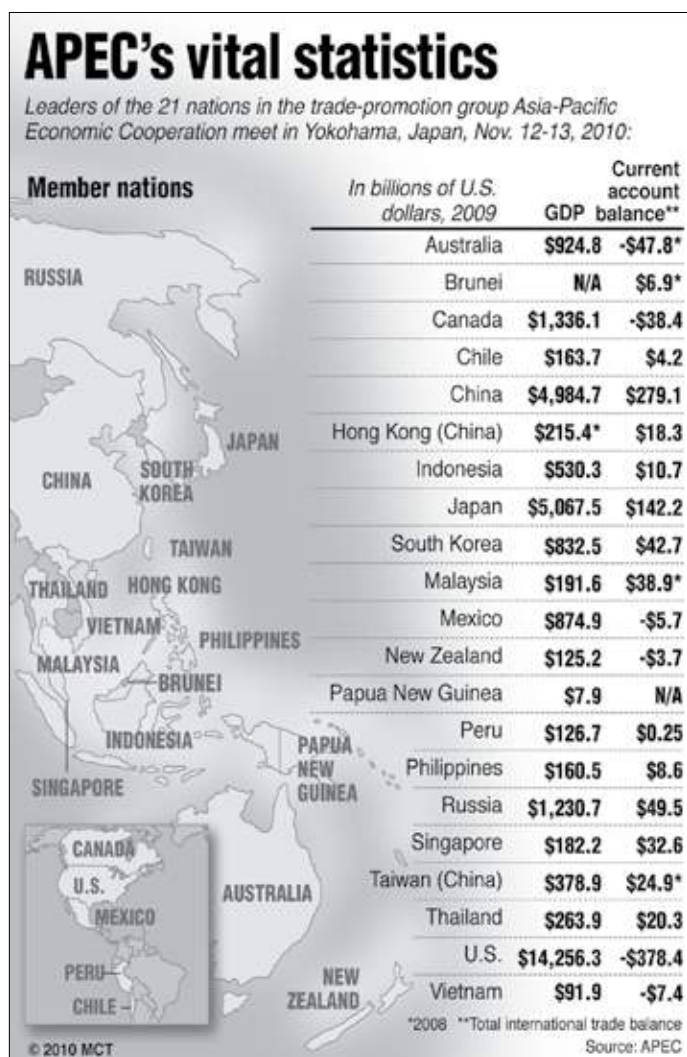
Wrapping up the annual Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, the leaders of 21 economies put aside differences over currency policies to voice a strong commitment to increasing the trade and investment crucial to the region's growth and resilience.

Leaders representing the U.S., China, Japan, Russia and other regional economies also agreed on the need to reduce trade imbalances and government debt and avoid sharp, potentially disruptive fluctuations in exchange rates.

While many participants remained at odds over currency policies and other issues, they appeared to agree on the vital role freer trade can play in sparking growth.

"We reaffirm our unwavering commitment to achieving free and open trade and investment in the region," the leaders said in a declaration released after the talks ended Sunday.

The leaders also agreed to take "concrete steps toward



realizing a Free Trade Area of the Asia-Pacific," but set no timetable. The declaration

said this goal should build on regional groupings such as the Trans-Pacific Partnership, a

Qantas keeps superjumbos grounded after accident

SYDNEY (AP)—Australia's national airline is keeping its flagship superjumbos on the ground more than a week after a frightening midair engine disintegration, disrupting its most lucrative long-haul routes even as regulators and pilots say the Rolls-Royce motors are safe.

With its competitors' Airbus A380s back in service, Qantas appears caught between a drive to zealously protect its reputation as the world's safest airline, and the financial imperative to return its six spacious Airbus superjumbos to service on its grueling routes to the U.S. and Europe.

Lufthansa and Singapore Airlines are flying their 14 Airbus

A380s again after carrying out extra inspections in the wake of the frightening engine problem on a Qantas flight to Singapore, which revealed a problem of potentially disastrous oil leaks in Rolls-Royce motors on the world's largest jetliner.

"We're not going to rush anybody, we're not going to be putting a deadline on it. We're going to make sure it's absolutely right before we have this aircraft start flying again," CEO Alan Joyce said Saturday at a celebration of the 90th anniversary of his airline, which began as a small-scale flier transporting pastoralists and miners across the northern Outback.

With no fatal crash since it introduced jet-powered planes in the late 1950s, Qantas enjoys a reputation made globally famous by the 1988 movie "Rainman," in which Dustin Hoffman's number-obsessed character insists it is the only airline he will use because "Qantas never crashed."

But a run of scares in a variety of planes in recent years have tarnished that image. The most serious—when a faulty oxygen tank caused an explosion that blew a 5-foot hole in the fuselage of a Boeing 747-400 over the Philippines—prompted aviation officials to order Qantas to upgrade maintenance procedures

dom's conservative morals, but that blocking the site is a temporary measure. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because he wasn't authorized to speak to the media. Pakistan and Bangladesh both imposed temporary bans on Facebook this year.

China to play role in General Motors IPO

DETROIT (AP)—Among the banks helping General Motors with its initial public stock offering next week are two identified by initials only: ICBC and CICC. Americans uncomfortable with U.S. government ownership of

General Motors may want to hear more: One of those banks is the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China, one of China's four big central government banks. The other, China International Capital Corp., is a joint venture run primarily by Central Huijin Investment Ltd., an arm of the state, and Morgan Stanley. This is the first time Chinese government banks have participated in a major U.S.-issued IPO, according to IPO tracking firm Dealogic. The banks are listed as co-managers in the offering, meaning they will sell a portion of the new shares.

U.S.-backed free trade agreement that nine APEC members are negotiating.

At APEC, where congeniality usually trumps conflict, leaders of the world's three largest economies pledged Saturday not to backslide into retaliatory trade tactics, a day after discord over such issues marred the meeting of the Group of 20 major economies in Seoul, South Korea.

The 21 APEC members, whose economies account for more than half of all world commerce, have agreed to refrain from imposing any fresh barriers to trade and investment, or measures to stimulate exports,

until the end of 2013.

"We commit to take steps to roll back trade distorting measures introduced during the crisis," said the declaration titled "Yokohama Vision." The statement acknowledged that some economies may have resorted to emergency tactics to blunt the impact of the global slowdown.

Asia's robust and resilient growth has hinged on trade, and APEC, founded in 1989, has made knitting the region closer together its main objective.

The document also notes a need to reduce trade imbalances and government debt to help ensure stable and sustainable economic growth. In a

rare reference to contentious currency issues, it includes a pledge to move toward more "market-determined exchange rate systems."

Washington contends that China's currency, the yuan, is significantly undervalued, giving Chinese exporters an artificial advantage in overseas markets and contributing to the huge U.S. trade deficit. China and some other countries have slammed the U.S. for printing money to help spend itself out of recession, a policy they say is driving the value of their own currencies higher, flooding their markets with excess cash and fueling inflation.



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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

NMHC RFP 2010-011 - AMENDMENT #01

ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES
FOR
THE TINIAN FIRE DIVISION STATION

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, is soliciting Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Architectural and Engineering Design Services for the Tinian Fire Division Station, San Jose, Tinian, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This design services is funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), under its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

Local Business Preference as amended by Public Law 15-95 and further amended by Public Law 15-118, is not available to local proposers in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal Law granting the funding for this project.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations dated May 24, 2001. Proposals procedures shall be in full compliance with section 4-102 of the regulations.

Prior to being awarded a design contract, the firm or company must have or obtain a valid Certificate of Authorization (COA) from the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Board of Professional Licensing.

The Scope of Work (SOW) will be available on or after Friday, November 12, 2010, at the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation's Office, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of Twenty-Five Dollars (\$25.00) is required for each set. Payment shall be by cash, money order or cashier's check (payable to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation). Pre-Proposal Conference is scheduled on Monday, November 22, 2010, at 1:00 p.m. at the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation's Rota Field Office. Questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing to Mr. Joshua T. Sasamoto, Corporate Director, NMHC, Saipan, fax to (670) 234-9021 no later than Monday, November 22, 2010 - 4:30 p.m., local time.

Proposers must submit with their proposal a Project Approach and Schedule of completion, with details how the work will be accomplished by the consultants, given the time requirements and resources available as identified in their proposals.

Proposers shall also submit a separate statement of qualifications (names and experience) not to exceed twenty five (25) pages. Note that firm that submits a proposal as a prime consultant, **cannot** submit as a subcontractor on another proposal. However, only subcontractor may be included in multiple proposals by different consultants.

Proposal will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. Professional qualifications necessary for satisfactory performance of services – 30%
2. Project approach – 20%
3. Capacity to accomplish the work in the required time – 25%
4. Past performance on contract with Government on similar projects – 25%

Proposals must be sealed and marked **NMHC RFP 2010-011**. For proposal within the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of sealed proposals must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m., local time, Monday, December 6, 2010. Proposers located outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) workings for receipt of their proposal by submitting a Notice of Intent to Propose. Notices of Intent to submit proposal must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 10:00 a.m., local time, Monday, December 6, 2010, and may be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For proposers located outside the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of sealed proposals must be marked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal services of a foreign country no later than Monday, December 6, 2010 - AND must be received no later than Friday, December 10, 2010. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

Discussion shall be conducted with at least three (3) of the firms regarding the contract requirements and technical approach and selection made there from, in order of preference, of no less than three (3) firms determined to be the most highly qualified to perform the services required.

A contract shall be negotiated with the highest qualified architect-engineer firm at a price determined to be fair and reasonable to the government. If a fair and reasonable can not be negotiated with the highest ranking qualified firm, then additional firms may be selected in order of competence and qualifications and negotiations continued until a fair and reason price is agreed upon;

The successful proposer(s) will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with CNMI Procurement and Supply Regulations Section 3-301.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes that will be charged to the proposer(s) awarded a contract for this project, including excise tax.

The government reserves the right to reject any or all Proposals and to waive any imperfections in any Proposal in the best interest of the Government. All Proposals shall become the property of the Government.

/s/ Marcie M. Tomokane
Board Chairwoman & Contracting Officer

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director
Division of Procure & Supply



NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Saudi Arabia blocks Facebook over moral concerns

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP)—An official with Saudi Arabia's communications authority says it has blocked Facebook because the popular social networking website doesn't conform with the kingdom's conservative values. The official says Saudi's Communications and Information Technology Commission blocked the site Saturday and an error message shows up when Internet users try to access it. He says Facebook's content had "crossed a line" with the king-

Nation

Snowstorm causes 400 Minn. crashes; 2 die in Wis.

By DINESH RAMDE
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Parts of the Upper Midwest dug out from a heavy snowfall Saturday that caused more than 400 traffic accidents in Minnesota, and wintry conditions also were being blamed for a collision in northern Wisconsin that killed two people.

Nearly a foot of snow had fallen in parts of the Twin Cities area by Saturday evening, downing trees and causing sporadic power outages.

The storm that began late Friday night was blamed for a collision Saturday morning that killed both drivers and left a passenger hospitalized.



A jogger makes his way through the slush and snow along East River Parkway, Saturday, Nov. 13, 2010, in Minneapolis. AP

The sheriff's department in Wisconsin's Bayfield County said the storm produced "rapidly deteriorating road conditions" that likely contributed to the crash.

Kevin Kraujalis of the National Weather Service's Duluth office estimated that Bayfield County had a couple of inches of snow on the ground when the collision occurred.

The meteorologist said the county had about 5 inches as of 6 p.m. Saturday.

The Minnesota State Patrol responded to 401 crashes as of 4 p.m., with 45 of them involving minor injuries, Patrol Capt. Matt Langer said. There were no other immediate reports of fatalities or major injuries.

The storm dumped 11 inches of snow in parts of Eden

Prairie, Minn., and 10 inches in the Forest Lake and Mankato areas, said Todd Krause, a federal meteorologist in Minneapolis. The major snowfall activity ended by early afternoon, and Sunday's forecast looked milder, he said.

"People will still see snowflakes across much of Minnesota (on Sunday) but it won't be adding up to anything," he said.

Voters approve Arizona medical marijuana measure

PHOENIX (AP)—Arizona voters have approved a measure that will legalize medical marijuana use in the state for people with chronic or debilitating diseases.

Final vote tallies showed Saturday that Proposition 203 won by a tiny margin of just 4,341 votes out of more than 1.67 million votes counted. The measure had started out losing on Election Day by about 7,200 votes, but the gap gradually narrowed in the following 10 days.

"Now begins the very hard work of implementing this program in the way it was en-

visioned, with very high standards," said Andrew Myers, campaign manager for the Arizona Medical Marijuana Policy Project. "We really believe that we have an opportunity to set an example to the rest of the country on what a good medical marijuana program looks like."

Arizona is the 15th state to approve a medical marijuana law. California was the first in 1996, and 13 other states and Washington, D.C., have since followed suit.

The Arizona measure will

allow patients with diseases including cancer, HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis C and any other "chronic or debilitating" disease that meets guidelines to buy 2 1/2 ounces of marijuana every two weeks or grow plants.

The patients must get a recommendation from their doctor and register with the Arizona Department of Health Services. The law allows for no more than 124 marijuana dispensaries in the state. After ballots are canvassed Nov. 29, the state has 120 days before the law goes into effect.

ACROSS THE NATION

Ohio sheriff: Blood in home a factor in 4 missing

HOWARD, Ohio (AP)—An unusual amount of blood found in a missing woman's home is evidence of an injury apparently related to her disappearance with her two children and a female friend, a sheriff in Ohio said Saturday. Knox County Sheriff David Barber did not say who investigators believe was injured inside the home of 32-year-old Tina Hermann in Howard, about 60 miles north of Columbus, and he would not elaborate. "The one thing I can say about it is that it's an unusual amount," Barber said of the blood. "It isn't from someone stubbing their toe or cutting their finger, you know, or peeling an apple or something like that." Hermann was reported missing Wednesday, along with her 13-year-old daughter,

Sarah Maynard, 10-year-old son, Kody Maynard, and 41-year-old friend, Stephanie Sprang. Investigators were searching by air and land and in a private lake about a half-mile from the home.

Pa. police: Dad killed woman, 2 girls, then self

ERIE, Pa. (AP)—A man shot and killed a woman and their two daughters in his home late Saturday morning before turning the gun on himself, authorities said. Erie County Coroner Lyell Cook identified the dead as a 29-year-old man, a 27-year-old woman and two girls, ages 4 and 7. A 2-year-old boy was taken to a hospital with a minor injury, and police believe the man tried to shoot him, too, he said. It was not immediately clear whether the man and woman were married.

Report: 5 dead in SoCal crash, 7 cycles involved

OCOTILLO, Calif. (AP)—Five people were killed Saturday in a crash involving seven motorcycles and at least one other vehicle on a rural desert highway east of San Diego, authorities said. The five fatalities occurred in the collision shortly before 1 p.m. on Route 98 near Ocotillo in Imperial County, just miles from the U.S.-Mexico border, California Highway Patrol spokesman Pablo Torrez told the Imperial Valley Press. Torrez said he did not know whether one or two vehicles other than the motorcycles were involved. It was not clear which vehicles the dead came from or why so many motorcycles were riding together. The CHP had earlier reported six injuries, but it was not clear if any of those six were among the dead.



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INVITATION TO BID NMHC IFB 2010-014 - AMENDMENT #01

This ad is paid for with HUD funds.

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, hereby give notice that NMHC is soliciting sealed bids for the **REHABILITATION OF THE SUSUPE SPORTS COMPLEX SOFTBALL FIELD FENCING & ELECTRICAL ROOM** in Susupe, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Interested individuals or firms may pick up a copy of the Project Package beginning Friday, November 12, 2010, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI and austerity holidays. A non-refundable payment of Fifty dollars (\$50.00) is required for each set. Payment shall be by money order or cashier's check (payable to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation).

Bidders are also advised that this project is subject to compliance with the Davis-Bacon Act. All wage rates for laborers, mechanics and all other employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid the current minimum wage or the wage determination for the Commonwealth as specified in CM20080001 for the Mariana Islands.

A **mandatory pre-bid conference** will be held at **10:00 a.m.** on **Tuesday, November 23, 2010**, at the Susupe Sports Complex Softball Field Fencing & Electrical Room project site in Susupe, Saipan, and all interested bidders will be given the opportunity to walk through the proposed project site, familiarize themselves with the required work and ask questions regarding the project. Attendance at this conference and site visit are considered essential to the bidders' understanding of the project elements and a company that does not have a representative in attendance at the pre-bid conference will be considered as a non-responsive bidder.

Sealed Bids must be marked **NMHC IFB 2010-014**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and three (3) copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director, Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than **10:00 a.m., local time, Monday, December 6, 2010**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m., local time, Monday, December 6, 2010 and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515 or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside of the CNMI, an original and three (3) copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U. S. Postal Service or the official government postal service no later than Monday, December 6, 2010 AND must be received by Procurement and Supply no later than Friday, December 10, 2010. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 11:00 a.m. local time, Monday, December 13, 2010. However, if no Notices of Intent to Bid are received from bidders outside of the CNMI, the bids will be opened at 11:00 a.m., local time, Monday, December 6, 2010.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00), a bid security of fifteen percent (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. This security may be in the form of a Certified Check, Cashier's Check, or Bid Bond. Checks must be made payable to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC), with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Rehabilitation of the Susupe Sports Complex Softball Field Fencing & Electrical Room". Surety companies must hold a Certificate of Authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General.

Bidding procedures shall be in compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, however, Article 7, "Local Business Preference" is not available to local bidders in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funding for this project.

The bidder submitting the lowest responsible bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 3-301. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with NMHC and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment Bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price. Pursuant to Governor's Directive 251 dated March 15, 2006, bidders are required to include a Clearance from the Office of the Insurance Commissioner with respect to the financial bonding capability of the bidders' chosen Surety.

Performance time for completion of this project is seventy-five (75) calendar days. Liquidated damages will be assessed at One Hundred Dollars (US\$100.00) per calendar day for delays beyond the established completion date.

This project is funded by a grant from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), under its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) provided to the Commonwealth. This project is also subject to Section 3 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1968 which requires recipients of HUD funds and the contractors to help insure that the economic opportunities generated by these HUD funds are provided to local low-income residents and the businesses that serve them "to the maximum extent feasible."

NMHC hereby notifies bidders that it will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, women and small business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit proposals and will not be discriminated against on grounds of race, color, national origin, political affiliation, creed, sex, religion, age, familial status, and disability status.

All documents received shall be the sole property of the NMHC with the exception of the Bid Bond, Certified Check, or Cashier's Check, which will be returned to the proposers after the acceptance and award of contract to the successful contractor.

The Government reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive any defects in the said proposals, if in the sole opinion of NMHC, to do so would be in its best interest. All proposals will become the property of the Government.

/s/ Marcie M. Tomokane
NMHC Board Chairwoman & Contracting Officer

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director
Division of Procurement & Supply



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Asia

Cheers as Suu Kyi appears



Hands reach to touch the hand of Myanmar's pro-democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi after her release from house arrest in Yangon, Myanmar, Saturday, Nov. 13, 2010. AP

YANGON, Myanmar (AP)—Thousands of wildly cheering supporters greeted Myanmar pro-democracy hero Aung San Suu Kyi as she arrived at the headquarters of her political party Sunday, a day after her unconditional release from seven

years under house arrest.

Arriving by car from the lakeside residence that has been her prison, she slipped into the ramshackle headquarters of her National League for Democracy as people shouted "We love Suu" amid thunderous applause.

Inside, she met with Yangon-based diplomats and was later scheduled to talk with the public and media, attend the funeral of a close friend and pay a customary visit to the city's sacred Shwedagon pagoda.

"This is an unconditional release. No restrictions are placed on her," her lawyer Nyan Win said.

There was speculation whether she would use her

newfound freedom to challenge the ruling military head-on, or be more conciliatory.

In her first public appearance Saturday evening, Suu Kyi indicated she would continue with her political activity but did not specify whether she would challenge the military with mass rallies and other activities that led to her earlier detentions.

"We have a lot of things to do," said Suu Kyi, the 65-year-old charismatic and relentlessly outspoken woman who has come to symbolize the struggle for democracy in the isolated and secretive nation once known as Burma. The country has been ruled by the military since 1962.

Fellow Nobel laureates celebrate Suu Kyi's release

HIROSHIMA, Japan (AP)—Fellow Nobel laureates celebrated freedom for pro-democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi, who was released from house arrest Saturday by Myanmar's military government.

Former Nobel Peace Prize winners who had gathered in Hiroshima, Japan, for a three-day meeting to urge the end of nuclear weapons received the news of Suu Kyi's release during a boat cruise. She was awarded the prize in 1991.

Former South African President Frederik Willem de Klerk and Hiroshima Gov. Hidehiko Yuzaki gave a joint toast in her honor.

"I sincerely hope next year when we have the conference she will attend," said de Klerk, who won the Nobel Peace Prize with Nelson Mandela in 1993 for his efforts to end apartheid.

"For years we have been asking at the laureate conference for her release," he said. "We welcome it, and we hope it will last, and there won't be a regression of any nature."

Shirin Ebadi, one of Iran's first female judges and the 2003 Peace Prize winner, reacted with a simple "Bravo."

"It's a victory over wrong," she said. "Like the past, I hope she can act for democracy."

were well within the zone that has been evacuated. The mountain has continuously spewed ash—and occasionally torrents of rock, gas and lava in dramatic eruptions—since it roared to life Oct. 26 after years of dormancy. But several days of reduced activity have prompted scientists to warn that the volcano remains dangerous and they are still registering tremors around it.

The latest blasts confirmed that

view. Lesto Kuswanto, an officer at a monitoring post on the mountain, said a hot cloud slid as far as two miles (three kilometers) from the crater on Saturday.

Scientists from Japan, the U.S. and France are traveling to Indonesia to study the data from Merapi and share their experience as experts struggle to figure out what the volcano will do next, according to Surono, the chief state volcanologist.

World

Cuba frees 1st of 13 political prisoners

HAVANA (AP)—The first of 13 remaining Cuban dissidents jailed since 2003 was released from prison Saturday and returned to his home in the capital, a strong signal the government intends to release all of the men despite their refusal to go into exile.

Bertha Soler, a member of the Ladies in White dissident group, told The Associated Press that Arnaldo Ramos Lauzurique had "arrived at his apartment" in central Havana after his wife received a telephone call from Havana Cardinal Jaime Ortega informing her

of the government's intentions.

Soler said another of the 13, who had been on the fence about whether to accept the government's offer to go into exile with his family, had finally decided to take the deal. She said the man, Luis Enrique Ferrer Garcia, would leave for Spain soon, along with his family.

There was no immediate comment from the Roman Catholic Church, which had announced all of the previous releases. The government has refused to comment as the process has unfolded.

The 68-year-old Ramos was sentenced to 18 years in prison in 2003 along with 74 other activists on charges of receiving money and support from the United States to destroy the revolution. Some of them were later released for health reasons.

After a meeting with President Raul Castro on July 7, Ortega announced that the 52 still in prison would be let go over the course of four months. Thirty-nine of the men were freed and sent into exile in Spain, but progress stalled as the last 13 refused to leave the island.

Family's old vase fetches \$83 million

LONDON (AP)—It was just an old Chinese vase that had been in the family for 80 years. It turned out to be much more.

When the intricately painted 18th-century piece went on the block at Bainbridges, a small suburban London auction house, it sold for a record \$83 million Thursday, scooped up by a Chinese buyer.

"How do you anticipate the Chinese market?" asked the shocked auctioneer, Peter Bainbridge. "It's totally on fire."

The sale price was more than 40 times the pre-sale estimate and a record for a Chinese work of art—an outcome Bainbridge called "a fairy tale" for the family who owned the vase.

The sellers, who wished to remain anonymous, are the sister and nephew of a deceased elderly woman in the West London suburb of Pinner. The vase had been in the family at least since the 1930s, though they don't know how it was acquired.

Many Chinese artifacts surfaced in Britain in the 19th century, having been looted from Beijing's Summer Palace when it was sacked by British and French troops at the end of the Second Opium War in 1860.

Painted sky blue and imperial yellow and adorned with medallions depicting leaping goldfish, the 16-inch vase dates from the Qing dynasty, a time when Chinese porcelain-making was at its pinnacle. Made for the personal collection of Emperor Qianlong and bearing the imperial seal, experts said it was an exceptional piece.

Still, no one expected what happened when the delicate enameled vase went on the block.

Bainbridge said the atmosphere was "electric," and when the hammer came down on the winning bid he struck it so hard the gavel broke.

"There was a silence that wrapped itself around the sale as the figure grew slowly but surely up to the sky," said Bainbridge, who specializes in house clearance sales—and



This undated photo released by Bainbridge Auctioneers shows a Chinese vase which was sold for 43 million pounds (\$69.3 million) in London Thursday, Nov. 11, 2010. The vase is decorated with a fish motif and is 16 inches high. Auctioneers Bainbridges said the vase is believed to have been acquired by an English family during the 1930s or earlier. AP

whose previous record sold for \$161,000.

"I'm an auctioneer, so at that point I'm just doing the professional job I'm paid to do. But once the hammer's down you do take stock slightly and think, 'Oh, wow, that's really rather a lot of money,'" said Bainbridge, whose \$13.9 million buyer's premium is included in the sale price.

The vase, bought by a Chinese bidder on behalf of an undisclosed buyer, beat the previous record for Chinese art. A 45-foot-long 11th-century scroll elaborately decorated with calligraphy sold for almost \$64 million in Beijing in June.

While the vase sold Thursday is not extremely old—it dates from around 1740—it comes from a period whose works are coveted by Chinese buyers. Last month, Sotheby's sold another Qing dynasty vase in Hong Kong for \$32 million.

"While European taste tends to focus on the really old stuff produced by the Chinese, Chinese collectors consider this

period of porcelains the zenith of their art," said Roland Arkell, deputy editor of the Antiques Trade Gazette.

"It's a superb object. It's also a piece which chimes completely with Chinese taste. And it has to be seen in the context of a rapidly rising market."

Even he was surprised, though, by the sale price, which makes this work by anonymous artisans the 11th most expensive artwork ever sold at auction.

"It's right up there alongside the Picassos, which is unheard-of for a piece of porcelain," he said.

More record prices are sure to follow. Prices for Chinese art and antiquities are buoyant.

Art markets in the West are still feeling the effects of the economic downturn. Masterpieces set records—often acquired by Russian, Middle Eastern or Asian collectors—while mid-range works languish unsold.

"It's like a creme brulee: hard at the top and a bit soft underneath," said Robert Read, a fine art expert at specialist insurer Hiscox.

In contrast, China's booming economy means wealthy new collectors are joining the market all the time, eager to repatriate treasures from their heritage.

"There's definitely a shift in the balance of power," said Read. "Things are going east these days. That's where the future is, and that's where the big collectors are going to be over the next 20 years."

He said the result was also good news for small auction houses like Bainbridge's, which the auctioneer runs with his wife and a staff of eight.

"This result indicates the depth to which buyers are prepared to hunt for treasure. The Internet has opened up the market for small auctioneers who now find themselves in the happy position of being able to compete with the big players," he said.

Toll from volatile Indonesian volcano passes 240

MOUNT MERAPI, Indonesia (AP)—Indonesia's most volatile volcano unleashed another cloud of searing gas as rescuers pulled more bodies from a village smothered a week ago by eruptions. The death toll from a series of blasts passed 240 on Sunday.

Saturday's blast followed a similar one the day before. No new deaths have been reported from the latest flows, which

Health & Fitness

How to prevent tooth decay in your kids

DID YOU KNOW?

■ **Tooth decay is the #1 most infectious disease facing children.**

■ Tooth decay is actually an infectious disease that you can pass on to others! It is caused by BACTERIA! The bacteria in a mom's mouth can easily be passed on to the child's mouth, causing tooth decay!

■ Tooth decay can cause some serious infections and diseases if not taken care of.

■ Prevention of this disease must start early! – if you are pregnant – make sure you see a dentist before you have your baby, because decay in YOUR mouth = decay in your child's mouth!

■ You should take your child to the dentist when they are ONE YEAR old! Regular dentist visits can help prevent serious pain and illness.

■ Baby teeth ARE important – they keep the space for the adult teeth and allow your child to eat and speak properly.



Bad tooth decay with infections in young children.

How to Prevent Tooth Decay:

- Visit your dentist before plan-

ning to get pregnant or during your 2nd trimester

- Brush and floss daily
- Moms, take care of your teeth because decay in your mouth = tooth decay in your child's mouth
- Stay away from junk food, try not to snack!
- Have a regular feeding schedule for your baby
- **NEVER** put your baby to bed with the bottle!
- First visit to the dentist should be at age ONE year!
- Wipe your baby's gums and teeth every day—tooth brushing should start when the first tooth shows, using a small soft toothbrush.
- Visit your dentist!

Remember: As a parent, YOU are responsible for the health of your child's teeth. Tooth decay is an infectious disease, which can be stopped! Prevention is the key to healthy teeth and beautiful smiles.



Health Matters

Health myths

Some of the common misconceptions relating to your health:

Myth	Fact
Most body heat is lost through the head	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your body will lose heat from any area not covered Possible origin of myth A 50-year-old military study concluded subjects exposed to extreme cold lost heat through their heads, yet heads were the only exposed body parts
You can prevent colds by taking Vitamin C and zinc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Illness can not be prevented by taking Vitamin C and it won't alleviate symptoms by taking it after becoming sick; studies show zinc to be ineffective and some zinc nasal remedies have been linked to loss of smell
Drinking 8 glasses of water daily	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most people already get adequate water intake from what they normally eat and drink; USDA surveys show most people take in 75 ounces of water daily Possible origin of myth 1945 study recommended adults get 2.5 liters (85 ounces) of water daily, but noting that much of that water is contained in the foods eaten each day
Single people have sex more often than married couples	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surveys show married couples report not only having sex more often than single people, but that they enjoy it more

© 2010 MCT

Source: AARP, American Medical Association, Rutgers University Graphic: Lee Hulleng

Personal Trainer

Weight lifting basics for women

Lifting moderately heavy weights regularly can bring significant health benefits to post-menopausal women; some advice for novices:

Be consistent Try not to skip sessions; if you can't do a long session, do a short one

Vary your exercises To keep from overdeveloping one muscle group; use a variety of exercises, machines and resistances

Learn good technique A trainer can teach you the basics; avoid hyperextending or letting weight hang against a locked elbow joint

Lift and relax slowly Contract muscles for 1 to 2 seconds, hold for half a second, then release for 3 or 4 seconds

Muscles are sexy
Don't worry about getting too muscular; women don't build muscle mass the way men do

Find female-focused exercises Back and shoulder muscles protect posture; hamstring muscles protect against knee injury

Work balanced muscle groups
Every muscle has an opposing muscle; be sure to work both of them

Find a buddy A partner can "spot" for you and encourage you when you struggle

Be patient It takes four to six weeks to see the benefits of weight lifting

Source: Johns Hopkins Weight Management Center, Mayo Clinic Sports Medicine Center, Hartford (Conn.) Hospital

© 2010 MCT Graphic: Paul Trap

Mutant mosquitoes fight dengue in Cayman Islands

LONDON (AP)—Scientists have released genetically modified mosquitoes in an experiment to fight dengue fever in the Cayman Islands, British experts said Thursday.

It is the first time genetically altered mosquitoes have been set loose in the wild, after years of laboratory experiments and hypothetical calculations. But while scientists believe the trial could lead to a breakthrough in stopping the disease, critics argue the mutant mosquitoes might wreak havoc on the environment.

"This test in the Cayman Islands could be a big step forward," said Andrew Read, a professor of biology and entomology at Pennsylvania State University, who was not involved in the project. "Anything that could selectively remove insects transmitting really nasty diseases would be very helpful," he said.

Dengue is a potentially fatal mosqui-

to-borne disease that can cause fever, muscle and joint pain, and hemorrhagic bleeding. More than 2.5 billion people are at risk and the World Health Organization estimates there are at least 50 million cases every year. There is no treatment or vaccine.

Unlike malaria, which is also spread by mosquitoes, dengue outbreaks are unpredictable and bed nets are of limited use because dengue-spreading mosquitoes also bite during the day.

Researchers at Oxitec Limited, an Oxford-based company, created sterile male mosquitoes by manipulating the insects' DNA. Scientists in the Cayman Islands released 3 million mutant male mosquitoes to mate with wild female mosquitoes of the same species. That meant they wouldn't be able to produce any offspring, which would lower the population. Only female mosquitoes bite humans and spread diseases.

Life & Style

Government sells spoils of Madoff's lavish life

NEW YORK (AP)—Anyone wanting to walk in the shoes of fallen financier Bernard Madoff was in luck Saturday: Thousands of belongings from his New York City penthouse, including his used shoes, went on the auction block.

An anonymous bidder paid the highest price of the auction—\$550,000—for a 10.5-carat diamond engagement ring that belonged to Madoff's wife, Ruth. The winning bid topped the \$300,000 minimum pre-sale estimate.

Ruth Madoff's French diamond earrings fetched the next highest price. Valued at \$100,000 to \$137,500, they went for \$135,000 to an undisclosed buyer.

The man who became a symbol of greed and deceit on Wall Street also had a lavish collection of watches. One of his vintage steel Rolex "Moon Phase" watches sold for \$67,500, topping a \$60,000 minimum estimate.

The sale started Saturday morning at the Sheraton New York Hotel & Towers, with an auctioneer from Texas-based Gaston & Sheehan rattling off lots at a tongue-twisting speed all day and into the evening.

Buyers responded at fever pitch. They raised their hands to signal a bid—accompanied by bloodcurdling shouts from bid-spotters marking a winning price. Their swaggering

style—as if herding bulls instead of selling Madoff's artsy ones—seemed appropriate for an auction of the belongings of a Wall Street trader who cherished the winning bull in every form. He bought statues and paintings of them and even named his boats "Bull," "Sitting Bull" and "Little Bull."

A leather bull foot stool—including a tail that had broken off—sold for \$3,300, against a pre-sale estimate of \$250 to \$360.

While many of the more than 400 lots included luxury items, the Madoffs' penthouse did have touches of culture. A 1917 Steinway grand piano from their living room went for \$42,000—six times the minimum estimate of \$7,000. The buyer was an 81-year-old Long Island real estate executive.

"I've got loads of pianos, but this one has history—it'll make an interesting conversation piece," said John Rodger, an amateur pianist who will keep the Steinway in his home in East Islip.

An oil painting by the late American artist Frederick Carl Frieseke sold for \$47,500, against a pre-sale estimate of \$20,000 to \$45,000.

The Manhattan sale is the last auction in New York of Madoff belongings. A third and final auction is to be held in Florida to sell off items from a Palm Beach home that went for more



This undated photo made available by Proxibid, Gaston and Sheehan and the U.S. Marshals Service shows ten pair of men's Italian & French designer shoes, part of thousands of belongings from Bernard Madoff's New York City penthouse on the auction block in New York on Saturday, Nov. 13, 2010.

than \$5.5 million last month.

Madoff was arrested two years ago and quickly admitted his scheme. Investigators said he used billions of dollars in cash from new investors to pay old ones, cheating charities, celebrities and institutional investors.

U.S. marshals seized everything in the Madoffs' Manhattan apartment and Long Island beach house: worn socks, new monogrammed boxer shorts,

Italian velveteen slippers bearing the initials "BLM" in gold embroidery. All of it was being sold—with morbid fascination for mundane articles from the couple's daily life that also were on the block, from bed linens, clothing, cookware and luggage to intimate items like cuticle scissors and bottles of shampoo.

Valued at \$75 to \$110, the lot with the slippers also included Ruth Madoff's monogrammed shirt. A young man

paid \$6,000 for all of it, saying he'll never be able to wear the slippers because his shoe size is 13; Madoff wore a size 8. He declined to give his name.

The boxers came with assorted menswear and went for \$650, besting a pre-sale estimate of \$380 to \$540.

Besides bulls and fine watches, Madoff loved shoes. He owned about 250 pairs, many never worn—made in Italy, France, Belgium and England.

Ten pairs of Madoff's used designer shoes sold for \$900, against a minimum of \$250.

The disgraced 72-year-old convict is behind bars for life in a North Carolina prison, and his wife was ordered to leave their homes.

Despite their vast wealth, the Madoffs didn't seem to make much room for house guests.

The auction included their early 19th-century bed with fabric hangings and "intense sun fading," at a pre-auction estimate of \$8,000 to \$11,400.

"Just \$500?" the incredulous auctioneer, Bob Sheehan, said of the first bid, adding, "This was the only bed in the whole house, I'm not kidding! \$500? My God, it's not a pullout."

It sold for \$2,250.

Sheehan conducted the auction for the U.S. Marshals Service, which hoped to make at least \$1.2 million off the sale. Proceeds will go to more than 3,000 clients Madoff swindled in a multibillion-dollar Ponzi scheme.

U.S. Marshal Roland Ubaldo said a total for the sale would not be available for several days, but he believed it would surpass the amount the government hoped for.

A New York auction last year of Madoff's property raised \$1 million. The Manhattan penthouse went for \$8 million, and his yacht and boats also were sold.

Leaving Hogwarts behind

By **GEOFF BOUCHER**
LOS ANGELES TIMES

WATFORD, England—There was a break in the action—the cast and crew of "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows" were milling about waiting for the next set-up on a summer day here in 2009—and Daniel Radcliffe sat back in his seat and admired the life of a fugitive. "Everybody is after us," the actor said of his on-screen persona, Harry Potter, and his partners in magic. "We're to the point in the story where it's a lot of action and we're on the run. And that's brilliant."

When Part 1 of the two-part "Harry Potter" franchise finale reaches theaters on Nov. 19, it will do so without one of the series' signature characters. But the missing star is not a wizard, Muggle, goblin or troll, it's a place. The seventh film is the first without any notable screen time spent inside the stone corridors of Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry, the castle that has become synonymous with the magical epic.

The absence of the ancient academy from the seventh movie, according to producer David Heyman, informs the texture and rhythm of the franchise's penultimate installment. The film is very much a road-trip adventure with the three main characters—played by Daniel Radcliffe, Rupert Grint and Emma Watson—in fugitive mode and preparing for the final showdown with Lord Voldemort, portrayed with reptilian rasp by Ralph Fiennes.

"It gives this film a very different feel to be away from Hogwarts," Heyman said. "The main characters—Harry, Ron and Hermione—are on the run and, yes, they do go to some magical places, like the Ministry of Magic, but a lot of the film is set in a quite naturalistic setting, and that makes it feel very real and very human. There's plenty of magic, of course, but it's set against a very real context."

"It feels real, gritty at times and beautiful at other times."

Radcliffe said treading past the stony floors of the Hogwarts set in Watford energized the cast during the production of the

seventh and eighth films, which were made together in a shoot that began in February 2009 and did not wrap until mid-June of this year.

"This movie just looks different than the other ones. We've spent so much time at Hogwarts that it makes it fresh to go somewhere new on screen."

When last we left the orphaned wizard at the end of 2009's "Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince," he was mourning Hogwarts headmaster Albus Dumbledore (Michael Gambon), who had been cut down by Severus Snape (Alan Rickman).

The forces of Voldemort were ascending, and the gathering darkness was far removed from the tone and twinkle of the first films in a franchise that has pulled in more than \$5.3 billion in worldwide box office.

The seventh film has dramatic showdowns with Voldemort's cult, the Death Eaters, and a startling supernatural heist job that includes a dragon as the untamed getaway vehicle.

But Heyman said some of the most compelling sequences are



marked by emotional tension and smothering suspense.

"One thing I love about the films of (director) David Yates

British actors Daniel Radcliffe, from left, Emma Watson and Rupert Grint arrive at a cinema in London's Leicester Square for the World Premiere of Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 1, Thursday, Nov. 11, 2010.

is that you really feel the human element," Heyman said. "There's a real truthfulness, and going out on the road with this seventh film, it makes it feel just much more real."

Hogwarts makes its return in "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2," in a manner of speaking. That final chapter of the franchise is built around a massive battle that destroys much of the school. That's not much of a spoiler if you've been paying attention.

The Warner Bros. poster promoting the two-film finale shows the ramparts of the ancient academy in flames beneath a grim tagline: "It all ends here."

The films taken together have the cast's enthusiasm at an all-time high. "Without question, these two are going to blow all of the rest of them away," says Tom Felton, who has brought memorable sneer to the role of Draco Malfoy.

Lauper, Browne headline rousing Lennon tribute

NEW YORK (AP)—Juggling to “Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds”? Modern dance, to “Free as a Bird”? Perhaps not the usual stuff of a John Lennon tribute concert.

But looking at the wry, quirky smiles on Lennon’s face as classic photos of the Beatle great alternated all evening long on a screen at the Beacon Theater, one couldn’t help but think he would have thoroughly enjoyed himself.

Lennon, it’s still startling to think, would have turned 70 last month—and so even though Friday’s tribute was the 30th in a series, this one had a special feel. Produced by Theatre Within, a nonprofit arts group, the evening was a benefit for the Playing for Change Foundation, which builds music schools in poor areas of the world.

Among the big names this year: Cyndi Lauper, who performed “Across the Universe,” a song she said had helped her get through her teen years. Then she recalled how, singing Beatles songs long ago with her sister, she would “be” John and her sister would stand in for Paul.

“Not this time, though,” Lauper quipped, calling onstage a substitute “Paul”—none other than Jackson Browne—to collaborate on “A Day

in the Life.” Earlier, Browne had the somewhat graying crowd singing happily along to “You’ve Got to Hide Your Love Away.”

Patti Smith was there, too, with a quirky rendition of “Strawberry Fields,” before striking an emotional chord when she spoke of losing her husband. Yoko Ono, she said, was an example for her of how to carry on as a widow. So she serenaded Ono—with Lennon’s “Oh Yoko,” of course. (Ono was present via video message, telling the organizers: “John would have loved what you are doing.”)

Dance, anyone? The Wendy Osserman company presented a free-flowing duet to “Free as a Bird,” nicely capturing the whimsical song’s mood. The evening’s most curious offering, though, came from juggler and YouTube sensation Chris Bliss, who expertly plied his trade to “Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds.” On vocals: Joan Osborne and Maura Kennedy.

Osborne also provided a gritty, spirited rendition of “Hey Bulldog.” But for sheer power, it was hard to beat Shelby Lynne’s remarkably searing version of “Mother.”

In other highlights, blues singer Keb’ Mo’ came on for a quietly soul-

ful “In My Life,” followed by crowd favorite Taj Mahal, who performed a rousing “Come Together” with his daughter, then called back Keb’ Mo’ for “You Can’t Do That.” Earlier, Taj Mahal had joined with South Africa’s Vusi Mahlasela on “Watching the Wheels.” Aimee Mann was there with “Jealous Guy,” Martin Sexton with “Working Class Hero,” and Alejandro Escovedo with a slowed-down rendition of “Help.”

And the Playing for Change Band, musicians from across the globe who earned fame with a viral video of “Stand by Me,” made of separate snippets woven into a single performance, presented a new video—to Lennon’s iconic “Imagine.” They also came onstage in the flesh to rev up the crowd with songs like “All You Need is Love” and “Instant Karma.”

At the end of the Theatre Within’s 30th Annual John Lennon Tribute, the band was back—along with all the artists and the house band, led by Rich Pagan, for a rollicking finale. It ended, naturally, with perhaps Lennon’s most famous words:

“All we are saying,” the artists sang along with the audience, “is give peace a chance.”

Administration: Mrs. Obama was powerful in India



The first lady of the United States Michelle Obama, left, praises 10-year-old Malaysia Chevere, right, for being a “straight A student” as she serves steaks for US airmen and their relatives on Ramstein Airbase in Ramstein, Thursday, Nov. 11, 2010.

YOKOHAMA, Japan (AP)—During three days in India, Michelle Obama danced with children and then danced some more. She played hopscotch and clasped hands with each of the 15 schoolgirls she joined for a museum field trip.

Images of her dancing with the children in Mumbai ran virtually nonstop on TV and were plastered across the newspapers.

For that, Mrs. Obama won glowing praise Saturday from administration officials who said the events she did on her own in India were among the most successful of President Barack Obama’s 10-day, four-country tour of Asia.

“She clearly reached the Indian peo-

ple through her direct interactions with young Indians,” Ben Rhodes, a deputy national security adviser to the president, told reporters Saturday.

Rhodes said events where the first lady engaged young people and spoke with them about their concerns sent “a very powerful message that we’re not just speaking to the Indian elite. We’re speaking to the broad Indian populace.”

Before introducing Obama at a town hall last Sunday in Mumbai, Mrs. Obama told a gathering of college students that she never imagined, growing up in a working-class Chicago neighborhood, that she would serve her country as first lady.

She kicked off her flats to shake her

hips with children, and after touring the crafts museum she sat with the girls beneath a canopy of trees, sharing mango juice and entertaining their questions.

She urged the girls to get an education and study hard.

“I think her star power and her ability to send a positive message about America to the world was a real key takeaway of the Indian trip,” Rhodes said.

His boss, national security adviser Tom Donilon, concurred. He said the first lady had represented her country well.

Mrs. Obama joined the president on his stops in India and on an abbreviated visit to Indonesia, where he lived for several years as a child, before she returned to Washington.

Kanye West cancels upcoming ‘Today’ performance

NEW YORK (AP)—Kanye West has backed out of a scheduled performance on NBC’s “Today” show after getting upset with how his interview with host Matt Lauer this week was handled. West’s record company confirmed the cancellation to “Today” on Friday after the rapper said on his Twitter account that he wouldn’t perform. He was scheduled to appear Nov. 26, part of a promotion drive for his new disc, “My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy,” which is being released Nov. 22.

During the interview, which was taped Tuesday and aired Thursday, West appeared thrown when “Today” aired a video clip of an embarrassing moment—when he grabbed a microphone from Taylor Swift at the 2009 MTV Video Music Awards and said Beyonce should have won an award instead of Swift.

West tweeted this week that he felt “set up” by the interview and that Lauer tried to force his answers. His cancellation notice was accompanied by mixed messages.

“Much love to Matt and the whole Today show,” he said in a Twitter message. “I accept ya’ll future apology in advance LOL!”

In the interview, West talked about former President George W. Bush’s angry response to West saying after Hurricane Katrina that Bush “doesn’t care about black people.” “Today” played a clip of Bush speaking about it in his recent interview with Lauer. In seeking a reaction, Lauer noted that

it was the most emotional Bush had become during three and a half hours of talking with him.

“Don’t even listen,” Lauer said. “I want you to look at his face.”

That appeared to upset West, who looked away.

“I don’t need you guys to show me the tape in order to prompt my emotion about what I’m going to say,” he said.

Later in the interview, punctuated by pauses where West appeared to be searching for words and Lauer looked perplexed, West became angry when the Swift video was shown. Lauer explained that it was common to show video of an event when it is referenced in an interview, but West complained that he could hear it and wondered how he was supposed to talk over it. Lauer ordered the sound of the tape be turned off.

“Please don’t let that happen again,” West said. “It’s, like, ridiculous.”

Lauer said later that “there was nothing improper about it, nothing unusual about it.”

West’s decision could be a lose-lose situation. It deprives “Today” of an appearance from one of music’s most popular performers on the day after Thanksgiving, when many people are off from work and school.

From West’s standpoint, he was due to perform on Black Friday on the nation’s most-watched morning show, when New York streets around the “Today” studio will likely be clogged with holiday shoppers who might be persuaded to add his disc to their lists.

Early Oscars presented at 2nd Governors Awards

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A few honorary Oscar winners are getting a jump on next year’s Academy Awards.

Film historian and preservationist Kevin Brownlow, director Jean-Luc Godard and character actor Eli Wallach are to receive Oscar statuettes Saturday evening at the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences’ second annual Governors Awards.

Director-producer Francis Ford Coppola is also to be presented with the academy’s Irving G. Thalberg award at the private black-tie dinner at Hollywood & Highland’s Grand Ballroom, which is adjacent to the Kodak Theatre, home of the Academy Awards.

Winners were chosen by the governors of the academy’s 15 branches. The academy established its Governors Awards last year to pay tribute to winners of honorary Oscars and the Thalberg bust—prizes previously presented during the Academy Awards telecast. Academy President Tom Sherak said the new, non-televised Governors Awards allow the academy to honor more artists with more in-depth presentations.

Last year’s inaugural celebration “was a night where celebrities came, members came who aren’t celebrities and celebrated the careers of four people,” Sherak said. “Not only were all their friends able to attend—which doesn’t always happen at the Academy Awards—those people were able to talk and toast them individually.”

Sherak said he expects the event to remain untelevised, though highlights will be available online at Oscars.org and will also be included in the Academy Awards telecast on Feb. 27, 2011.

Live updates from Saturday’s event will also be featured on the academy’s Twitter feed.

“We purposely have not let the outside in just yet,” he said. “We want it to be a night where you can say anything you want.”

Sid Ganis, who is producing the event with Don Mischer, said they plan to “put on an entertaining show that will do what we can’t do on the big show, which is to dig into the careers of these four gentlemen.”

Brownlow, a documentary and historian, has restored several silent films, written books about the history of Hollywood and made movies about some of its pioneers.

“He is a treasure to this industry,” Sherak said.

Godard, a French-born director whose contributions to the New Wave era of filmmaking have been considered groundbreaking, has said he won’t be able to attend the awards ceremony. Godard has been the subject of media reports in recent weeks that suggest he is anti-Semitic, and the academy received some complaints about his honorary award, but Sherak said the honorary Oscar is in recognition of his artistic contributions, not “his overall life.”

Wallach is a character actor who has appeared in scores of movies and TV shows since his career began in the early 1950s. Sherak called the 94-year-old actor “a gem” and “an artist in his craft.”

Coppola, a five-time Oscar winner whose credits include “The Godfather” and “Apocalypse Now,” is being honored for producing a lifetime of quality work.

Broomsticks aground, Quidditch cup comes to NYC



AP

Harvard Hortails' Billy Gorman celebrates with his team mates in the Quidditch match against University of Richmond during the 4th annual Quidditch World Cup held at Dewitt Clinton Park Saturday, Nov. 13, 2010 in New York.

NEW YORK (AP)—More than 40 broomstick-riding teams are competing in the two-day Quidditch world cup tournament in New York City.

Long a fictional fixture of the Harry Potter novels and movies about teenage wizards, the sport features players who fly on broomsticks. But in real life, the rules have been adapted to a ground game for “muggles”—

humans without magical powers.

Teams from around the world that competed in a Manhattan park Saturday with rules similar to the sport created by J.K. Rowling in her books. The matches call for chasers, beaters, keepers, seekers and a snitch. Goals must be score and the snitch caught.

The tournament continues Sunday.

Bush on post-presidency: 'I miss being pampered'

THE VILLAGES, Fla. (AP)—Former President George W. Bush says he doesn't miss much about the White House, just the pampering. Bush told more than 3,000 people at a sprawling central Florida retirement community on Saturday that he misses the convenience of Air Force One and never waiting in traffic jams. The 43rd president said, most of all, he misses being command-



Bush

er in chief of the U.S. military.

In his 30-minute speech, he talked about what it was like to return the salute of men and women.

The Villages retirement community is heavily Republican. Many in the crowd waved American flags and wore hats noting their military service.

Bush is on a national tour promoting his new memoir, “Decision Points.”

Sally Field honored at high school alma mater

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Sally Field's high school still likes—really likes—the actress.

The 64-year-old Oscar and Emmy winning star of ABC's “Brothers & Sisters” was honored Friday at the Birmingham Community Charter High School in the San Fernando Valley community of Lake Balboa. Students and faculty gathered at the school's performing arts center, originally built in 1976, to dedicate the auditorium in Field's name.

“I want to say how lucky you are that this beautiful theater exists for you,” Field told students on stage during a ceremony before the unveiling of the theater's new sign. “Use it. Explore not only the world of language, the spoken word and that of storytelling—because that's what we do up here on

this stage, we tell stories—but use it to explore you.”

Field graduated from the school in 1964 before starring in “Gidget” on television and later winning Academy Awards for her roles in the films “Norma Rae” and “Places in the Heart.” She said that the school's drama department “quite simply saved my life” and was the place that

she could “most truly and absolutely be me, where I lost myself and found me.”

“I didn't feel like a fit in at all,” she recalled of her high school tenure.

Field reminisced about the school being a former Army hospital, then a cluster of rickety buildings “made out of pine wood.” She also recalled wait-

Fiance reveals Miranda Lambert's birthday present

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—What do you get for the girl who has everything? An iPad.

Country singer Miranda Lambert celebrated her 27th birthday at the CMA Awards in Nashville Wednesday night, taking home three awards. Before the show started, her fiance and fellow country singer, Blake Shelton, revealed to The Associated Press what he got her for her birthday.

“She's been after me wanting an iPad lately, or asking me if I've seen one,” he said. “She's freaking rich, man. She can get whatever she wants. So, I just have to go buy things like right when they come out so she doesn't have a chance to get them yet.”

The couple, who plan to wed in the spring, have been dating for five years.

“We're to the point in our

relationship to where it's like, ‘Hey, just tell me what you want. Well, give me an iPad.’ I said, ‘OK.’”

Shelton and Lambert are now the reigning male and female CMA vocalists of the year. In addition, Shelton won CMA musical event of the year for “Hillbilly Bone” with Trace Adkins, and Lambert won album and video of the year.

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ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS

ADL condemns Glenn Beck's Soros-Holocaust remarks

NEW YORK (AP)—The Anti-Defamation League is criticizing remarks by Fox News Channel's Glenn Beck about billionaire financier George Soros and the Holocaust. The conservative pundit described Soros this week as a “Jewish boy helping send the Jews to the death camps.” But he also said he can't imagine what it must have been like trying to survive. Soros survived the Nazi occupation of Hungary and donates to liberal causes. ADL National Director Abraham Foxman says Beck's remarks about Soros' childhood were “inappropriate, offensive and over the top.” Foxman later told Salon.com that he still believes Beck is a strong supporter of Israel and the Jewish people. A Beck spokesman cited an Oct. 22 letter from Foxman praising

Beck as a “friend of Israel.” The letter was posted Friday on Beck's website.

Accused DiCaprio slasher pleads no contest

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A woman accused of slashing Leonardo DiCaprio's face with glass during a party five years ago has pleaded no contest to assault with a deadly weapon. Aretha Wilson entered the plea as part of a plea deal Friday in Los Angeles County Superior Court. She is expected to be sentenced to two years in prison on Nov. 22. The Academy Award-nominated actor required surgery to repair a gash on his face and neck from the 2005 attack. Wilson went to Canada after the attack and returned to Los Angeles to face the charge earlier this year. The 40-year-old had pleaded not guilty and was slated

to begin trial on Friday. She faced up to seven years in state prison if convicted.

De Laurentiis funeral set for Monday in LA

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A public funeral service for Oscar-winning producer Dino De Laurentiis will be held Monday at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels in downtown Los Angeles. A statement released by the family late Friday encouraged guests to wear red instead of black to the 1:30 p.m. PST service because “Dino De Laurentiis did not want to be met with a sea of black at his funeral.” The statement explained the legendary producer, who died Wednesday at age 91, “drew power” from the color red. The Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels is the headquarters of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Los Angeles.

Gyllenhaal and Sarsgaard to tackle Chekhov again

NEW YORK (AP)—Maggie Gyllenhaal and her husband, Peter Sarsgaard, will be together again on stage next year in another off-Broadway play by Anton Chekhov. The Classic Stage Company says the couple will appear alongside Jessica Hecht and Josh Hamilton in “Three Sisters.” Previews begin Jan. 12 and the show will run until Feb. 20. The play will be directed by Austin Pendleton, who also directed Gyllenhaal and Sarsgaard in a 2009 production of Chekhov's “Uncle Vanya.” Sarsgaard, who appeared in a Broadway production of Chekhov's “The Seagull” in 2008, is also known for his films including “Garden State,” “Kinsey” and “Jarhead.” His wife's movie credits include “Crazy Heart” and “The Dark Knight.”

Wife lobbies for amendment to husband's law of equality

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



DEAR ABBY: I have been married to “Leon” for 3 1/2 years. We have a 2-year-old daughter and are, for the most part, happy. However, one issue comes up frequently and seems to be the basis of all of our disagreements.

Leon is hung up on things being “equal.” This can range from whose “turn” it is to do the dishes, change the diapers, put our daughter to bed—to exactly

how many days we spend with each set of parents. If we travel to see my parents, we must also travel to see his.

This “equal” obsession drives me nuts. I'm fully in support of “fair,” but if I'm busy making dinner, it seems to me that he could change the baby's diaper even if it's my “turn.” As for visiting the in-laws, he became upset with me when I wanted to plan a trip to see my parents without simultaneously planning one to visit his. He felt shortchanged—until we added it up, and it turned out we've spent five weeks more with his family than with mine.

A marriage is a partnership, and I believe in picking up the slack when Leon is overwhelmed, sick or tired. Why can't he do the same for me?

UNFAIRLY EQUAL IN PHOENIX

DEAR UNFAIRLY EQUAL: Because, for whatever reason, your husband is obsessed with the idea that he's going to get the short end of the stick—if you'll forgive the vernacular. Either that, or he's obsessive-compulsive and also counts steps, turns and other meaningless minutiae. That he would expect you to stop preparing dinner to change a diaper is, to put it mildly—yech! However, he isn't going to change until he realizes he has a problem. The incident involving visiting your parents should have been his first clue.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: How do I get my dad to stop making uncalled-for comments? I'm 13, and I'm ready to stop inviting my friends over. My father always seems to say the worst possible thing.

For example, my friend “Amanda” was over one day. She has low self-esteem and body image problems. She was complaining to me about how curly her hair gets after she swims. I reassured her that it wasn't that bad, but then Dad came in and said, “Whoa! What's that? Your hair looks like something out of the 1980s!”

I replied, “Dad, could you please be quiet?” and he glared at me and continued. He often asks my friends if they're married yet, as a joke, and can't take a hint when he's the only one laughing. More than one of my friends have said they feel uncomfortable around him or just don't like him.

If I try to bring it up, Dad reminds me that back in my fifth-grade class everyone liked him. That was three years ago, and I have grown up and so have my friends. How do I teach Dad to take a hint?

MORTIFIED IN FLORIDA

DEAR MORTIFIED: You don't. Because he won't accept hearing it from you, it's better he get the message from another adult that his attempts at humor are in poor taste and not funny. Talk to your mother or another adult female relative and tell her what your father is doing. If he keeps it up, you won't have to worry about not inviting friends to your house because they won't want to come over and be embarrassed.

■■■

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

■■■

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in “What Every Teen Should Know.” To order, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

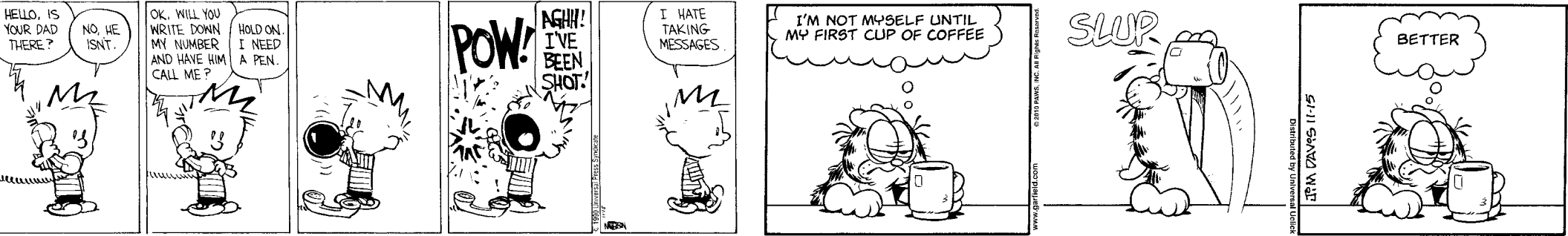
Pastimes

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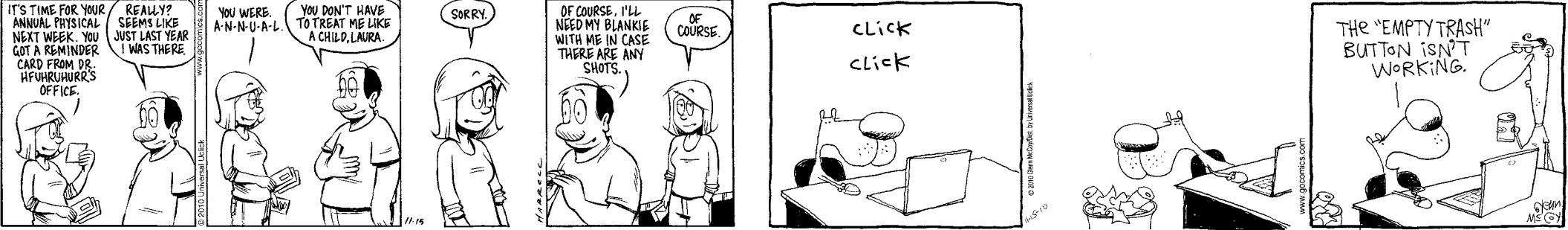


Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

35 Alpha follower

1 Unhappy destiny

5 Commercial

8 Out of control

12 Catch sight of

13 Caustic solution

14 Picnic hamperer

15 Winged arm

16 Octopus' arm

18 Pertaining to leaves

20 Reduce in status

21 Water (Sp.)

23 Atmosphere

24 Spiraling stems

28 Police officers

31 Actress Gardner

32 Moving about

34 Eccentric

DOWN

1 Unhearing

2 Norway's capital

3 October birthstone

4 Innumerable

5 Unselfish one

6 Coloring agent

7 Transmit deer

8 Mideastern language

9 Popular pasta

10 Lubricates

11 Leg joint

17 Afternoon social

19 Taj Mahal city

22 Change

24 Bill

25 Adam's mate

26 Across the country

27 Evil

29 Deposit

30 Pigpen

33 Anger

36 Vein

38 "Your Show of Stars"

40 A Kardashian sister

42 Sicilian volcano

43 Rod and

44 Relinquish

46 From one end to t'other

47 Hastened

48 Facility

50 Neither partner

Solution time: 24 mins.

S	H	A	R	P	M	A	N	G	L	E	
A	P	E	R	C	U	I	B	E	R	I	A
G	U	N	M	A	N	R	O	W	A	N	
E	R	S	E	C	R	A	M	N	E	E	
B	U	S	L	U	T	Z	S	P	E	W	
A	M	E	L	I	A	E	A	R	H	A	
M	A	A	S	L	A	N	D	S	A	S	
S	T	Y	C	Z	A	R					
A	C	H	E	L	H	I	O	H	I	O	
V	I	E	N	N	A	B	R	O	O	C	
I	N	L	E	T	S	A	I	S	L	E	
D	E	L	T	A	S	R	O	T	E	S	

Saturday's answer 11-15

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Zena Grey, 22; Jonny Lee Miller, 38; Frida Lyngstad, 65; Sam Waterston, 70

Happy Birthday: Changes at home will not be easy but, in the end, they will be beneficial. You have to constantly look and respond this year in order to turn your dreams into a reality. Greater stability can be yours if you take the steps necessary to secure your position both personally and professionally. Your numbers are 9, 13, 23, 25, 26, 37, 45

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Look over your financial papers. It's best to make decisions now regarding both money matters and your personal life. Keep things up to date, so you can forge into the future knowing you are prepared. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Take your time mulling over what others propose or what's involved in bringing closure to a situation you face. An assumption will work against you. You must find out all the particulars before you speak freely. ****

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Your enthusiasm may portray you as vulnerable. Make sure you don't let anyone take advantage of your good nature or your ability to get things done. An idea you have will take off if you present it now. **

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You have nothing to lose and everything to gain by taking action. Don't worry about what others think or do. You can change the way you live and what you do. Don't be afraid to apply

a little pressure if someone is not seeing things your way. *****

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Getting emotional about something you cannot change will hold you back. Look at all the other options and pick one. Get active—whether it's with friends, family, children or a project that you find challenging. ***

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You'll be torn between whom you want to spend time with and who needs your help. Don't get angry or annoyed, just get busy doing what needs to be done. The way someone views you will change because of the choices you make and how you handle your current situation. ***

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Ignore what's going on in your personal life and strive to be and do the best you can with regard to work, money and getting ahead. If you are looking for work, be innovative in the way you set up your resume or handle interviews. Change is looking positive. ***

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You have control but you aren't using your clout or putting pressure on the right people. You can figure out what the best fit is for you and proceed with a passion. It's up to you to follow through. *****

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Nothing will be as easy as you hoped. Not everyone is thinking the same way you are. You are likely to be disappointed by someone who puts a damper on what you are doing. Continue in your own direction. **

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): There will be more options than you realize when it comes to work and money. Taking a unique approach to something that has been done in the past will bring you a winning position, changing the way others view you. ****

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): There will be some emotional issues to deal with when it comes to your future and your ability to move forward. Talk to someone you trust and you will see more clearly the possibilities that exist. ***

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't be afraid to show how you feel. Your emotional response will tie in with a deal you've been trying to complete. A change at home will enable you to do more of the things you enjoy. Someone will disappoint you. ***

Birthday Baby: You are entertaining, inquisitive, sensitive, playful and a good storyteller. You are observant and imaginative.

Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, myspace.com/eugenialast for Eugenia's blog, astroadvice.com for fun

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13				14		
15				16			17			
18				19			20			
			21			22		23		
24	25	26				27		28	29	30
31			32			33		34		
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42	43			44		45		46	47	48
49					50			51		
52				53				54		
55				56				57		

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

2			5							
			5	9	3	1	4			
	6		8					5		
3	7	2	4					1		
	1							2		
	4				9	5	7	3		
	2				5		4			
		6	1	2	8	7				
					7				9	

Difficulty Level ★

11/15

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Saturday's SUDOKU Answer

3	1	4	8	6	7	2	5	9
9	6	7	2	5	1	8	3	4
5	2	8	4	3	9	7	1	6
2	8	5	7	4	3	6	9	1
4	7	3	9	1	6	5	8	2
1	9	6	5	8	2	3	4	7
7	3	2	1	9	8	4	6	5
6	5	9	3	7	4	1	2	8
8	4	1	6	2	5	9	7	3

Difficulty Level ****

11/15

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

TAPS (MILITARY)

Solution: 9 letters

T	C	Y	A	S	E	R	V	E	D	T	D	G	R
E	N	I	L	A	R	E	N	E	G	R	A	T	N
D	S	E	L	T	L	M	Y	T	A	L	I	O	I
C	N	O	U	O	H	P	Y	E	L	E	L	M	H
O	O	E	P	Q	B	G	H	R	F	A	L	B	S
N	I	C	G	M	O	M	I	A	T	D	A	G	I
F	T	E	L	E	O	L	Y	N	U	N	I	Q	U
E	A	I	T	U	L	C	E	S	D	A	S	R	G
D	L	P	U	M	F	M	S	G	O	H	E	D	N
E	L	W	N	V	U	E	E	N	S	L	Y	O	I
R	A	A	E	R	N	S	C	S	E	U	D	P	T
A	T	R	T	T	T	N	I	A	L	L	O	I	X
T	S	S	I	U	F	O	R	C	E	E	L	M	E
E	N	W	E	A	T	H	E	M	P	E	A	R	
I	I	E	N	O	T	S	E	L	I	M	P	F	F

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Strong finish for Woods in Australia



MELBOURNE, Australia
(AP)—Tiger Woods closed out his worst year with his best score, a 6-under 65 in the Australian Masters to at least get his name on the leaderboard for the first time this weekend.

Woods started the final round 10 shots behind. With a game reminiscent of his singles match in the Ryder Cup, he played his last six holes in 6 under, including a pair eagles, to get within two shots of the leader.

The defending champion finished with a 15-foot eagle putt that put him at 7-under 277.

Daniel Gaunt was at 9 under with four holes to play. The closing stretch at Victoria features a reachable par 4 at the 15th, and two par 5s at the end. Woods had already loaded up his car and left as the final group was on the 14th hole.

"It would have been nice if I had gotten off to that start," Woods said of his finish. "It came too little, too late. I still needed some help. Unfortunately, it's not going to happen."

Woods finished a calendar year without a victory for the first time in his career. He won the Australian Masters



a year ago at Kingston Heath for his 82nd title worldwide and a No. 1 ranking that no one could argue.

Twelve days later, however, he ran his car into a tree outside his Florida home, and that led to revelations that he had been cheating on his wife. Woods spent nearly five months out of golf, including two months in rehab at a Mississippi clinic, returning at Augusta National.

The closest he has been to the winner all year was three shots at the U.S. Open.

His final round matched his low score of the year. He also had a 65 in the first round of The Barclays at the start of the FedEx Cup playoffs on the PGA Tour.

Still, there were ominous signs early that this day would not work in his favor. Woods hit 2-iron on the 257-yard opening hole that he tried to either put in a bunker or on the green. Somehow, it carried the bunker and was nestled on the edge of a grass, a downhill lie so severe that he had no shot but to swat it into the sand. He missed a 4-foot par putt.

Tiger Woods from the United States watches his approach shot during the third round of the Australian Masters at Victoria Golf Club in Melbourne, Australia, Saturday, Nov. 13, 2010. **AP**

Woods also missed a 3-foot par putt on the eighth, and trailed by as many as 12 shots at one point.

Most of that was forgotten by the finish - a short iron to 3 feet on the 13th, a 45-foot eagle putt on the 15th, an up-and-down from just off the 17th green for birdie, and the 15-foot eagle on the final hole.

Woods switched to a Nike putter, the Method 003 with a mallet shape, for the final round. He also changed putters from his Scotty Cameron at the British Open. In both cases, he attributed that to slow greens, on which he struggles.

"It was fun to make a couple of putts," Woods said. "It's amazing what happens when you get a putt to the hole. It actually does go in."

Woods was in fourth place as the leaders were finishing out. He was assured of back-to-back top 10s for the first time all year.

It was the second straight week that Woods started and finished with good scores, only to fall out of contention in the middle two rounds. A week ago, he tied for sixth in the HSBC Champions in Shanghai, 12 shots behind.

"I can do this in streaks," he said. "Unfortunately, I haven't done this for an entire round."



PITTSBURGH (AP)—During a time when preening, self-promoting and spewing profanity on reality TV shows is an ever-growing method for NFL teams and players to establish an identity, the New England Patriots and Pittsburgh Steelers do it a much different way.

They promote winning, not themselves.

Of the nine Super Bowls played since the 2001 season, the Patriots have won three and the Steelers two. Since 1994, when Robert Kraft of the Patriots joined Dan Rooney and family in the fraternity of NFL owners, New England leads the league with 189 victories; Pittsburgh is second with 181.

Whenever they play, as they will in a Sunday night matchup that could have significant AFC playoff race implications, it's an acknowledged big game. Consider this: The franchises have met during six seasons since 2001, and five times either the Patriots or the Steelers went on to the Super Bowl.

Yeah, this is a big game, and not just because the winner will be 7-2 and tied for the NFL's best record.

"We recognize the potential play-off ramifications of it," Steelers coach Mike Tomlin said. "But more than anything, it's an opportunity to pit ourselves against a good football team and get a measure of where we are at this juncture."

Where both teams are right now is at a pivotal point in their seasons.

The Patriots had won five in a row before a 34-14 loss at Cleveland, keyed by Peyton Hillis' 184 yards rushing and two touchdowns, exposed weaknesses in the NFL's 29th-ranked defense. The Steelers are coming off two victories during a three-game road trip, yet they came within one Carson Palmer (notes) completion of blowing a 20-point lead in the fourth quarter Monday in Cincinnati. And an official's blown call on a goal-line play saved them from a possible loss in Miami.

Sometimes, even the Steelers and

No promoting needed when Patriots, Steelers play

Patriots need a bit of luck to stay good, although their comparable styles, personalities and no player-is-bigger-than-the-team concept are proving to be as comfortable over the long term as Belichick's hoodie with the cut-off sleeves.

"They've been very consistent and been able to really maintain pretty much their same system offensively and defensively," Belichick said of the Steelers. "That's very impressive in this day and age when you see teams change on a much more frequent basis. I don't think anybody's really got that kind of consistency like the Steelers have."

Except, of course, the Patriots, who have won six of eight against Pittsburgh, including AFC title games at Heinz Field during the 2001 and 2004 seasons.

"We've had a lot of big games against them," Belichick said. "It's a team that's not in our division, but you kind of feel like they are."

Much of that success is rightfully credited to Tom Brady, who is 5-1 against the Steelers, throwing for 1,658 yards, 11 touchdowns and three interceptions. The only loss was a 34-20 defeat in 2004 that ended New England's 18-game regular-season win-

ning streak, but the Patriots returned to Heinz Field three months later for an easy 41-27 victory in the AFC championship game.

"He can do a little bit of everything," Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger said of Brady, who was bothered by a sore foot as he practiced for Pittsburgh.

Brady is especially good after a loss, throwing 42 touchdown passes during the 21 games he's played that have followed a loss.

Roethlisberger has had one good game, two average games and one poor one since returning from his four-game suspension for violating the NFL's

personal conduct policy. He's seeking more consistency as the Steelers try to take advantage of being at home for five of their next seven, including games against the Patriots, Raiders (5-4) and Jets (6-2).

Keeping Roethlisberger on his feet would be a plus for the Steelers, who lost left tackle Max Starks to a season-ending neck injury in Cincinnati and may be without left guard Chris Kemoeatu (knee sprain). The injuries are testing the depth of an offense that ranks only 28th overall in yardage.

"I think we'll see a lot of blitzing—coach Belichick is known for his film study, bringing different looks and exotic things, and it will be a challenge for us," Roethlisberger said.

Unexpected reunion for Moss and Pennington

MIAMI (AP)—Chad Pennington takes over on Sunday, while Randy Moss merely tries to fit in.

The former college teammates will be newcomers in the lineup when the Miami Dolphins face the Tennessee Titans. Pennington replaces Chad Henne as Miami's quarterback, and Moss plays his first game with the Titans—his third team this year.

It's an unexpected alumni reunion for Pennington and Moss, who formed a potent passing combination at Marshall in 1997.

"We played ball together, we bled together, we cried together," Pennington says. "We did a lot of things together in college."

Thirteen years later, the two NFL veterans are eager to show they can still help a team win.

Their success or failure will have an impact on the AFC race. Tennessee (5-3) is tied with Indianapolis atop the South standings, while Miami (4-4) chases the Jets and Patriots in the East.

Both teams reached midseason needing an offensive spark. Henne began the year regarded as the Dolphins'

long-term solution at quarterback, but coach Tony Sparano decided this week to bench him in favor of Pennington, who hasn't taken a snap since a shoulder injury ended his 2009 season in Game 3.

Moss' stormy reunion with the Vikings lasted only four games after they acquired him in a trade with New England, and the Titans claimed him off waivers during their bye week. The saga raised anew questions about Moss' character, and Pennington watched from afar feeling badly for his friend.

"I hate that it happened. I'm sure he hates that it happened," Pennington says. "I just hope he's able to turn things around these last eight games and play really well—except for Sunday."

Pennington says he speaks with Moss infrequently, but they've taken part together in offseason foundation events, and a bond remains. Pennington likes to tell stories about his ex-teammate's athletic ability, such as the time Moss won a race at a high school track meet wearing sandals.

"He's a good diver too," Pennington says. "I've seen him do gainers off the springboard. Things come to him easy."

As for Moss' past admissions that he doesn't always give a full effort, Pennington chuckles and says he could accept that.

"We threw 25 touchdowns together, so I could accept anything," Pennington says. "I'm sure Randy is like all of us—we all have moments in our careers that we would like to take back. When he has been at places where they have given him the right support and he has been involved, he has been tremendous."

The Titans believe they can provide Moss the right support. And they're confident he upgrades an offense ranked only 24th in the NFL in yards per game.

"We're the kind of team that likes to take shots," quarterback Kerry Collins says. "With Randy, I think we're going to try and find ways to get those big chunks. It's fun to get a little creative with it and kind of do some things with him."

Starting quarterback Vince Young is

expected to play for Tennessee despite a sprained left ankle, while Pennington rejoins the Dolphins' lineup. Their offense has scored only 11 touchdowns, which tied for second-worst in the league, and neither Ronnie Brown nor Ricky Williams has a 100-yard rushing game this season.

Red zone offense has been a glaring problem, with the Dolphins settling for a field-goal attempt 22 times. They have yet to score more than two touchdowns in a game.

"Sometimes we get in our own way," Pennington says. "We've got to find a way to create sparks during games, and when there's a chance to stick a dagger in a team and take their heart out, we've got to do it."

Doubts persist about the strength of Pennington's shoulder, which has been surgically repaired three times. He'll need enough oomph to get the ball to Brandon Marshall, who has 52 catches but only one touchdown. Defenses have successfully schemed to contain the Pro Bowl pass-catcher.

"People are saying, 'We can't let him beat us,'" Titans coach Jeff Fisher says. "But his time is coming. When it's all said and done this year, he'll have a real productive season."

Williams scores last-second winner for Jazz



CHARLOTTE, (AP) — Deron Williams hit a running hook shot with 0.8 seconds left to cap a fourth-quarter rally as the Utah Jazz beat the Charlotte Bobcats 96-95 on Saturday night.

Williams finished with 17 points and nine assists for the Jazz, who overcame a 16-point halftime deficit to win their fifth straight game and fourth on the road.

Al Jefferson had 19 points, Paul Millsap 17 and Andrei Kirilenko 12 for Utah, which had to overcome double-digit deficits in winning its previous three road games.

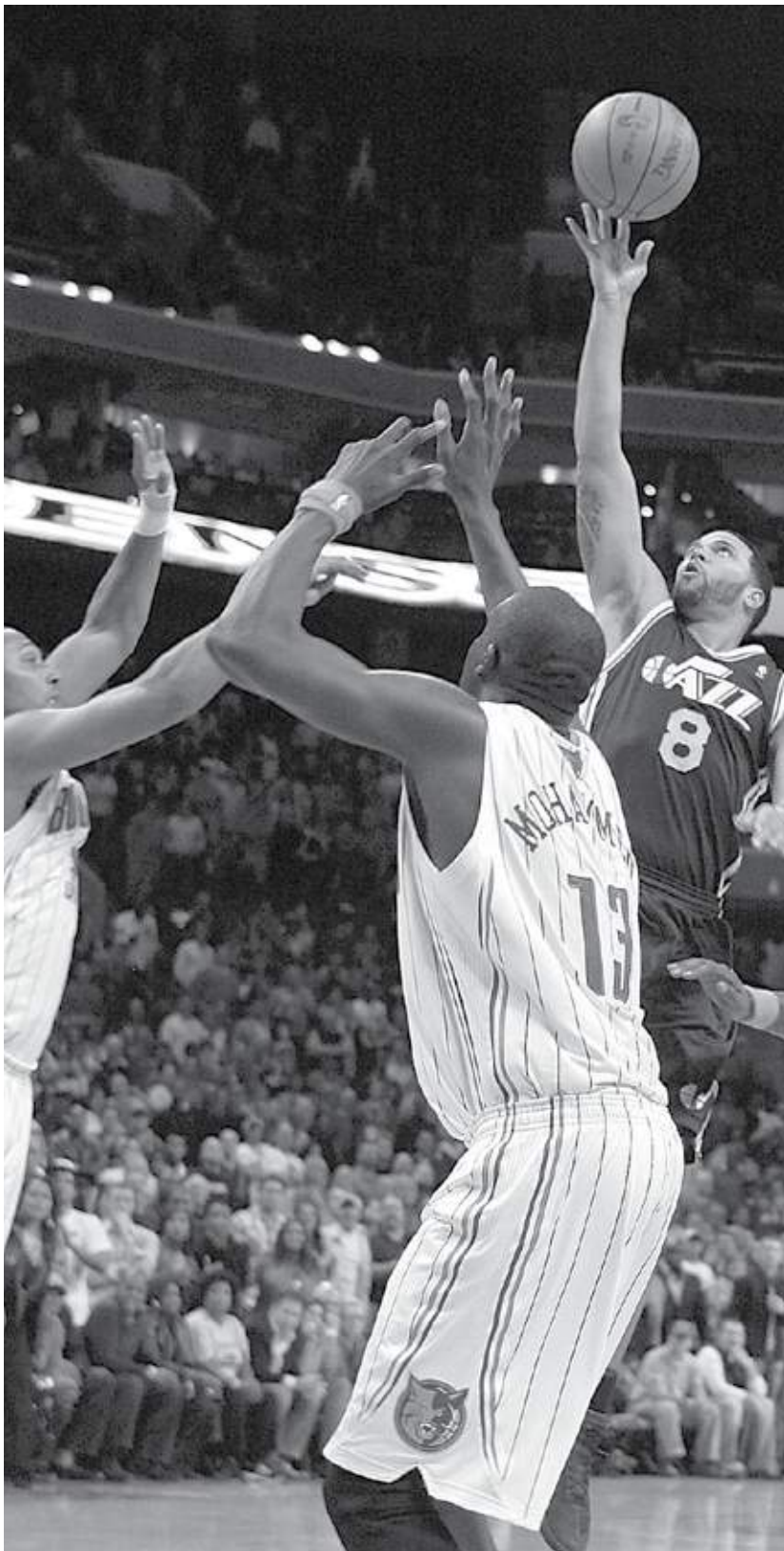
Nazr Mohammed had 22 points and 20 rebounds for the Bobcats, who led by as many as 19 points in the first quarter and held a 73-63 margin going into the final period. Charlotte remain winless at home after four games.

Down 49-33 at the half, the Jazz whittled away at the Bobcats' lead - pulling within 10 points by the end of the third quarter. Utah then took its first lead late in the fourth quarter, going up 92-91 on Jefferson's three-point play with 2:30 remaining.

Jackson hit a pair of free throws 12 seconds later to put Charlotte back in the lead, and Mohammed's layup with 59.8 seconds left put the Bobcats up 95-92.

But Jefferson dropped in a layup with 41 seconds left to pull Utah within one point. Augustin then turned the ball over with 24 seconds remaining while trying to drive for a layup, setting up Williams' game winner.

Mohammed recorded the second 20-20 game of his career, both coming with the Bobcats. He had 21 points and 20 rebounds on Feb. 10 against Minnesota. Bobcats forward Tyrus Thomas missed Saturday night's game because of a death in his family. Brown said that he expects Thomas back for Monday night's home game against the Timberwolves. Brown also sat guard Gerald Henderson because of soreness in his left knee. Henderson did not practice Thursday and he struggled to run in the Bobcats' last two games.



Utah Jazz's Deron Williams (8) puts up the winning shot over Charlotte Bobcats' Boris Diaw, left, and Nazr Mohammed (13) during the second half of an NBA basketball game on Saturday, Nov. 13, 2010, in Charlotte, N.C. Utah defeated Charlotte, 96-95.

Hornets 107, Trail Blazers 87

In New Orleans, David West and Marco Belinelli each scored 18 points to continue New Orleans unbeaten start to the season.

New Orleans, the only undefeated team in the NBA, led from start to finish and have held every one of their opponents this season below 100 points.

Portland cut a 17-point deficit to 75-70 early in the fourth quarter, but New Orleans responded with a 16-5 run to put the game away.

Chris Paul added 11 points and 13 assists for the Hornets. Center Emeka Okafor had a double-double before the end of the third quarter, finishing with 12 points and 11 rebounds.

Nicolas Batum led the Trail Blazers with 16 points, all in the second half. Andre Miller scored 12 of his 14 in the first half.

Blazers All-Star Brandon Roy, bothered by a chronically sore left knee, limped to the locker room with 6:43 left in the third quarter. He missed his first six shots and did not score until the third period, shortly before exiting for good.

Heat 109, Raptors 90

In Miami, Dwyane Wade scored 31

points, LeBron James added 23 points and 11 assists and the Miami Heat ended a two-game losing streak with a win in Chris Bosh's first game against his former club.

James Jones had 14 points, while Zydrunas Ilgauskas and Bosh each scored 12 points for Miami.

For the visitors, Andrea Bargnani scored 22 points and nine rebounds, while DeMar DeRozan added 21 points. Jose Calderon and Sonny Weems each scored 15 and Amir Johnson finished with 14 for the Raptors, who were within four points of the Heat midway through the fourth quarter.

The Raptors had the Heat feeling a little squeamish by night's end, too. Miami's lead was only 91-87 after Calderon made two free throws with 6:25 left, but a 12-2 run saved the Heat.

Haslem started it with an alley-oop lob from James, then Wade followed with a layup where he blew past Weems first, then twisted in the air around Bargnani. Wade quickly added a tomahawk dunk after taking a hand-off from James, and the reigning two-time MVP made it 101-89 with a slam

in transition off the left wing.

The Raptors came into the game tied with Philadelphia for the worst record in the Eastern Conference, even after winning in Orlando on Friday night, but hardly rolled over for Miami. The Heat took double-digit leads 10 times in the first half, only to see the Raptors shave the deficit back to single digits every time.

And that trend continued in the third quarter, certainly came to Bosh's chagrin.

Bucks 79, Warriors 72

In Milwaukee, John Salmons scored a season-high 26 points, including a basket with 50.8 seconds left, to lead Milwaukee to a win over Golden State.

Brandon Jennings added 19 points and Drew Gooden scored 16 as the Bucks registered 50 per cent shooting for the first time this season.

Monte Ellis led the Warriors with 24 points, but it wasn't enough to overcome their season-lowest shooting of 34.1 percent.

The Warriors made one last run at the Bucks and made it 75-72 on Jeff Adrien's hook with 1:31 left. Salmons

hit an 8-foot leaver with 50.8 seconds left and then Andrew Bogut blocked Vladimir Radmanovic's shot.

Luc Mbah a Moute grabbed Keyon Dooling's miss and was fouled. He made both free throws and when Reggie Williams missed a desperation 3-pointer, Jennings grabbed the rebound and dribbled out the clock.

After struggling for three quarters and being behind by 18, the Warriors opened the fourth with an 11-2 surge that made it 68-62 with 8:25 left to play. Williams and Radmanovic hit 3s and Charlie Bell, a former Buck, nailed a 19-footer off a fast break. After Salmons made two free throws for the Bucks, Ellis hit another 3.

Bulls 103, Wizards 96

In Chicago, Derrick Rose scored 15 of his 24 points in the second half, outplaying rival Washington point guard John Wall.

Joakim Noah had 21 points and nine rebounds for Chicago, which earned its third consecutive victory in its last home game until December 1. The Bulls open a seven-game road trip Tuesday at Houston.

Before the big show could take over Chicago's longtime home, Rose and Wall faced off in a matchup of speedy young point guards with similar backgrounds. Both played for John Calipari in college and were selected No. 1 overall by lagging franchises in need of a boost, Rose in 2008 and Wall this year.

Pacers 99, Cavaliers 85

In Cleveland, Danny Granger scored 34 points as Indiana pulled away in the second half to defeat the short-handed Cleveland.

The Cavaliers lost their fourth straight home game for the first time since March 2003, but were without starters Mo Williams (strained left groin) and Anderson Varejao (bruised ribs).

Granger shot 13 of 21, including 5 of 8 on his 3-point attempts. Mike Dunleavy scored 20 points for the Pacers while Roy Hibbert had 16 points and 13 rebounds.

Antawn Jamison led Cleveland with 19 points. Ramon Sessions scored 17 points and Daniel Gibson had 15.

The Pacers had dropped 16 of 19 to the Cavaliers dating back to Dec. 23, 2005, but pulled away for this victory.

It was 54-all at halftime before the Pacers went on a 7-0 early in the third quarter, putting them ahead to stay. Back-to-back 3 pointers by Granger and Dunleavy early in the fourth quarter pushed Indiana's lead to nine.

Celtics 116, Grizzlies 110

In Memphis, Ray Allen hit a key 3-point shot in overtime and Paul Pierce scored 28 points as Boston held off a furious rally by Memphis.

Rudy Gay's short pull-up jump shot for Memphis with 7.3 seconds left in regulation tied it at 99.

Celtics forward Glen Davis hit a jump shot and Allen dropped in an arching 3-pointer to give the Celtics a 104-99 advantage.

Pierce made four free throws in the final 1:30 to seal Boston's seventh win in its last eight games and finished their four-game road trip 3-1.

Gay had 22 points for the Grizzlies, who had trailed by as much as 11

points. Memphis forward Zach Randolph scored 21 points and grabbed 11 rebounds.

Celtics center Shaquille O'Neal scored 18 points in his second game back after missing five with a bruised knee. Rajon Rondo had 11 points and 17 assists.

Allen scored 15 points after going for a season high 35 in a 112-107 win at Miami on Thursday.

Memphis grabbed its first lead of the game when a short shot by Gay made it 86-85 with 6:44 left in the game.

Kevin Garnett's jumper gave the Celtics the lead again, but the Grizzlies took it back on a layup by rookie guard Greivis Vasquez, making the score 88-87 about halfway through the fourth.

Spurs 116, Sixers 93

In San Antonio, Tony Parker scored 24 points and capped a big surge in the first quarter that sent the San Antonio Spurs past the Philadelphia 76ers 116-93 Saturday night for their sixth win in a row.

Manu Ginobili added 18 points for the Spurs, who have already surpassed their longest winning streak from last season. All six of these victories have come against teams that were at .500 or under.

Parker scored on a fast break that finished off a 16-0 spree. The Spurs scored a season-high 39 points in the opening period and led the rest of the way. Parker shot 10-for-13 overall and had seven assists.

Jrue Holiday led the 76ers with 16 points. Lou Williams, playing for the second night in a row despite an injured left shoulder, added 13.

Andre Iguodala started in his second straight game after sitting out the previous two with a strained Achilles' tendon. The small forward scored 10 points in 20 minutes for the Sixers.

DeJuan Blair added 13 points and 12 rebounds for San Antonio. George Hill had 16 points, Richard Jefferson contributed 10 and Tim Duncan finished with seven points, six rebounds and a season-high five assists in 24 minutes.

Spurs center/forward Matt Bonner returned after missing the last six games with an ankle sprain he sustained in the season opener. He entered the game with 5:52 left in the third quarter and scored his first points, a 3-pointer from the corner, nearly two minutes later.

Bonner played 15 minutes, finishing with six points and five rebounds.

The Spurs were without rookie James Anderson, who is expected to miss six weeks with a stress fracture. The Oklahoma State product is 10 of 20 on 3-pointers this season.

The Spurs have won seven straight at home against the 76ers since 2004.

Magic 91, Nets 90

In Newark, New Jersey, Jameer Nelson scored the winning shot with only 4.1 seconds left to help Orlando avoid a third straight loss.

Nelson redeemed himself after missing two free throws with 19 seconds to go, with Orlando leading by one point. Brook Lopez then made two foul shots to give New Jersey the lead with 11.5 seconds remaining, but Nelson sped down court and tossed in a floater while falling to his left.

Dwight Howard had 16 points and 10 rebounds for the Magic, who have dropped two straight at home.

IT&E advances to QQ Cup semis

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER



IT & E marched into the semifinals round of the 2010 QQ Car Rental Basketball Cup after knocking out Atalig Associates, 88-70, in last Friday's wildcard playoff game at the Garapan Basketball Court.

IT&E jumped ahead early in the opening period of the play-off tiff first played last Wednesday. Ivan Devero and Jomary Tumaquip delivered six points apiece to give IT&E a 26-19 advantage. Bon Tamayo led Atalig

with nine markers.

Then IT&E padded the lead to double digits at halftime, 44-30, as Atalig struggled to get in sync with one another. Atalig was held to only 11 points in the second quarter. Devero led IT&E with seven more points to close the first half.

Rain chased everybody away after the first half of play, forcing league officials to schedule the continuation of the match last Friday.

Atalig found some offense after the two-day break, but IT&E was always there with an answer to foil the former's repeated comeback bids. Thomas Santos scored 10 points for Atalig, but

Devero, Errol Peredo and Marlon De Dios tallied three baskets apiece for IT&E, which maintained its advantage, 63-52, heading into the final quarter.

IT&E hit nine free throws in the fourth to help protect its lead and Atalig would eventually give up as the time ticked away. Peredo led IT&E with eight points in the fourth and finished with a game-high 22. Santos ended up with 19 points in the loss for Atalig.

The other scheduled game between Ferrera Builders and Pacific Grocers last Friday had to be called off due to rain. These teams played last night and results of the match were

unavailable at press time.

Tonight, a semis game between Wings Travel and the winner of the Builders and Grocers matchup will be played, followed by the duel between top-ranked Docomo Pacific and IT&E.

IT&E 88 – Peredo 22, Devero 19, De Dios 13, B. Montano 12, Tumaquip 12, Park 4, J. Lazona 2, J. Montano 2, Usi 2.

Atalig Associates 70 – T. Santos 19, Tamayo 17, B. Camacho 12, Capalad 9, Babauta 2, Cabrera 2, Hernandez 2, Lisua 2, Nonato 2, C. Sablan 2.

Scoring by quarters: 26-19, 44-30, 63-52, 88-70.



IT&E's Ivan De Vero goes for an off-balance shot against an Atalig Associates defender during their playoff game in the QQ Cup last Friday at the Garapan Basketball Court.

PACQUIAO

From Page 28

"I can't believe that I beat someone this big and this strong," Pacquiao said. "It's hard. I really do my best to win the fight."

Pacquiao moved up in weight yet again to take on Margarito, a natural welterweight with a reputation for ruggedness in the ring. And rugged he was, though he took a beating all night long at the hands of a faster and seemingly more powerful opponent.

"There was no way I was going to quit. I'm a Mexican, we fight until the end," Margarito said.

Pacquiao won every round on one scorecard, 120-108, and was ahead 119-109 and 118-110 on the other two. The

Associated Press had it a 120-108 shutout.

"We didn't lose a round," said Pacquiao's trainer, Freddie Roach. "I wish they would have stopped the fight."

That almost happened, but Cole allowed it to go on even as Margarito kept taking such a beating that he went directly to a hospital afterward for treatment of his cuts. There wasn't any way Margarito was going to win the fight, but he could still see out of one eye and wanted to continue.

"I told the referee, 'Look at his eyes, look at his cuts,'" Pacquiao said. "I did not want to damage him permanently. That's not what boxing is about."

Ringside punch stats reflected Pacquiao's dominance, showing him landing 474 punches to 229 for Margarito. But it wasn't just the sheer

volume of punches, but the power in which they came at almost every angle.

Roach predicted before the fight that Pacquiao would carve Margarito apart because he was simply much too quick for his opponent. He did just that, starting from the first round when he landed an early flurry up the middle that seemed to set the tone for the fight.

It wasn't entirely easy, though. Pacquiao said Margarito hurt him in the middle rounds with shots to the head and the body, though he was unable to land more than one of two punches at a time. When he did manage to land, more often than not Pacquiao was there to fire right back with volleys of his own that found their mark almost every time.

"Manny is the best fighter in the world," said Margarito's

trainer, Robert Garcia. "He is just too fast - very, very quick."

While there was no controversy in the ring, there was a dispute in the dressing room before the fight when a member of Pacquiao's camp saw a weight-loss supplement in Margarito's gear and demanded his blood be tested immediately for possible banned substances. Texas boxing officials ruled that would not be necessary, and the fight went on.

Roach also made sure he was in the dressing room to watch the hands of Margarito, who is still banned in California for a hand wrapping scandal, get wrapped. But it was Margarito's corner who demanded Roach also rewrap his fighter's hands in a display of gamemanship.

Once the fight started it didn't matter. Pacquiao landed

some big left hands early, cutting Margarito beneath the right eye and causing it to swell. By the middle of the fight he couldn't see out of that eye and his left eye began closing, too.

The fight was for the WBC 154-pound title even though the contract weight was 150 pounds. Margarito weighed 150 at Friday's weigh-in, but was 165 on the unofficial HBO scale before the fight while Pacquiao, who had been 144.6, was 148 pounds.

Pacquiao also gave away 4 1/2 inches in height and was at a six-inch reach disadvantage, but that didn't matter either.

Pacquiao earned a guaranteed \$15 million, though he is likely to make millions more on his cut of the television revenues. He planned to give a concert at Lake Tahoe on Tuesday and then return to his political duties in the Philippines.

"I have another job after this," Pacquiao said. "I'm going back to the Philippines to do my other job and be a public servant."

JAPANESE

From Page 28

winners Jeff Taylor, Ben Babauta, Bret Nelson, and Richard Pierce, who finished hole No. 2 in just 53 seconds.

Chun Wu Kang connected with a 210-yard blast off hole No. 5 tee to win the longest drive honors, while Sherlyn Jones prevailed in the ladies division with her 130-yard drive.

Nick Sablan won the most accurate drive award after landing his tee shot just three inches from the middle of the fairway

on hole No. 9. Sablan, Kang, and Jones each won Nike golf bag for their efforts.

Louis Byun won a free entry into next year's Tournament of Champions and some new golf balls for pounding the longest drive of the day on hole No. 10 in addition to a bottle of Johnny Walker Blue and a handbag for hitting his tee shot closest to the hazard line on hole No. 12.

Hyatt general manager Nick Nishikawa won the closest to the pin challenge on hole No. 11, placing the ball just three inches from the cup. Nishikawa won a hotel stay provided by

Pacific Islands Club.

Meanwhile, Nishikawa thanked all participants and supporters of the golf tournament, which will donate part of its proceeds to Make A Wish Foundation.

"Even though the CNMI is adjusting to hard economic times, this year's event was very successful. We appreciate the turnout and support from both the players and all 64 of our sponsors. The Make A Wish Foundation is a great cause and every year we look forward to hosting this event," Nishikawa said during the banquet.

Juan Blanco, a Guam Chapter Make A Wish Foundation beneficiary, was also present at the dinner banquet as guest of honor. Blanco is an eight-year-old boy from As Lito who recently met President Obama during a tour of the White House. At the banquet, Blanco displayed his oval office photo opportunity and personalized presidential autograph he received as a memento of his experience. Blanco took the stage at the end of the night to help Nishikawa and Microl-Toyota's Doug Brennan present the first place foursome with their prizes.

SAIPAN

From Page 28

Bryan Floresca led in the boys U14 division with a time of 13:13 and defeated Saipan Community's Jin Pyo Geo (13:48) and teammate Vinni Inos (14:09). Hopwood fielded enough runners (five) in the boys U14 group to get the division championship trophy.

In the girls U14 division, the diminutive Mikayla Lopez was the first overall female finisher in the longer race, clocking in at 15:24. Her Hopwood teammate, Tiana Osuda came in at second place with a time of 21:45.

Sharing the spotlight with Hopwood was Saipan Community, which consistently fielded runners in the qualifying races and capped the cross country season with a championship trophy in the boys U12 division and Top 3 finishes in other age groups.

Elnathan Wong came out the top finisher among the five SCS runners in the boys U12 division to give the Tsunamis the first place trophy in that age group. Wong timed in at 6:18 in the one-mile race to win a silver medal.

Hopwood's Berneil Taisacan submitted 6:01 to rule the boys U12 race, while Whispering Palms' John Auther completed the Top 3 finish with his time

of 6:22.

In the boys U8 division, which was also had a one-mile race, Ken Song logged 8:30 to win the gold medal against teammate Jeffrey Seo (10:46).

Then in the boys U10, Saipan Community had another sweep with Haruya Eda placing first with his winning time of 7:29. Teammates Noel Lim and Yun Pyo Geon finished second and third, respectively, with their times of 7:31 and 9:01. The girls U10 division gold medal went to Garapan Elementary School's Joshilyn Flores.

MHS rules U18 division

As expected, Marianas High

School prevailed in the high school division.

Michael Mancao finished the two-mile race in 12:28 to beat over teammates Danny Bai (13:08) and Beouch Ngirchongor (13:12).

Reylynn Sapong, also of MHS, topped the girls division, clocking in at 16:24. Chris Obaldo made it a 1-2 finish for the Dolphins after posting 16:28, while Corina Suda of Hopwood tallied 20:49 to complete the Top 3.

More than 50 runners from various schools on Saipan joined the race finale sanctioned by the Northern Marianas Athletics.

HUEVO

From Page 28

ranked second behind the top seeded Ideal Team. Both teams finished Day 1 with 10 wins, but Ideal Team took the No. 1 spot via tiebreaker, 49-35.

With only six wins and 19 points from the round robin elimination, M Squad came from the middle of the pack, placing fifth. Then it swept Finance Team in two games during Saturday's quarterfinals before pulling off a big upset via a best-of-three tiebreak win over Ideal Team to advance to the championship match.

In the other playoff bracket, Huevos Grandes walked over Housekeeping in two games and then knocked

off Kaduku-Kaduka, 2-1, to march to the finals.

In addition to bragging rights and trophy, Huevos Grandes also won the Best Uniform award and left with two cases of beer provided by Pacific Trading Company. Kaduku-Kaduka won the Best Banner honors.

The weekend tournament was an event for a cause, raising \$800 for the PIC cancer fund.

"Everybody had a great time as usual and of course it always feels good to raise money for cancer research and prevention. The games were full of high-paced action and we were pleased with the turnout," event organizer Glenn Policare said.

Policare said PIC will hold another dodgeball event some time in the spring of next year.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	8	2	.800	—
New Jersey	3	6	.333	4 1/2
New York	3	6	.333	4 1/2
Philadelphia	2	8	.200	6
Toronto	2	8	.200	6

Southeast Division

Orlando	6	3	.667	—
Atlanta	6	4	.600	1/2
Miami	6	4	.600	1/2
Charlotte	3	7	.300	3 1/2
Washington	2	6	.250	3 1/2

Central Division

Chicago	5	3	.625	—
Milwaukee	5	5	.500	1
Indiana	4	4	.500	1
Cleveland	4	5	.444	1 1/2
Detroit	3	6	.333	2 1/2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

New Orleans	8	0	1.000	—
San Antonio	7	1	.875	1
Dallas	6	2	.750	2

Memphis	4	6	.400	5
Houston	2	6	.250	6

Northwest Division

Utah	7	3	.700	—
Oklahoma City	5	3	.625	1
Denver	5	4	.556	1 1/2
Portland	6	5	.545	1 1/2
Minnesota	3	7	.300	4

Pacific Division

L.A. Lakers	8	1	.889	—
Golden State	6	4	.600	2 1/2
Phoenix	4	4	.500	3 1/2
Sacramento	3	5	.375	4 1/2
L.A. Clippers	1	9	.100	7 1/2

Yesterday's Games

Utah 96, Charlotte 95
Orlando 91, New Jersey 90
Indiana 99, Cleveland 85
Miami 109, Toronto 100
Chicago 103, Washington 96
Boston 116, Memphis 110, OT
New Orleans 107, Portland 87
Milwaukee 79, Golden State 72
San Antonio 116, Philadelphia 93

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Weekend Sports

It was a good week for Kagman High School, as the Ayuyus won two championships in the Marianas Interscholastic Sports Organization.

In the 2010-2011 MISO Boys Volleyball League, the second-ranked Ayuyus went undefeated in the playoff round and then swept Marianas High School in the finals at the MHS Gymnasium to win the championship.

It was the Ayuyus' third boys volleyball title in a row under coach Emilia Quitugua.

Over at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield, the Ayuyus also prevailed in the championship game in the MISO Baseball League after beating Saipan Southern High

Victorious week for Kagman Ayuyus

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
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REPORTER

School in the finals, 7-1.

Three other schools were also victorious last week with Whispering Palms, Saipan Community School, and Saipan Southern High School ruling their respective divisions in the 2010 Saipan Swim Club All Schools Swimming Championship at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool in Marpi.

Whispering Palms dominated the elementary division of the All Schools meet for its sixth title in a row. Saipan

Community topped the junior high school division, while Southern reigned in the high school category.

In an individual competition, Mieko Carey beat the favored male riders in the 2010 Ride 'Round the Ridge mountain bike race.

Carey timed in at one hour, 14 minutes and 39 seconds in the championship course to finish ahead of Guam's Jazy Garcia (1:15:21) and Saipan's Butch Sublemente (1:15:27).

In other big events last week, other ongoing leagues and tournaments on Saipan continued.

The QQ Cup caging at the Garapan Basketball Court entered its playoff round with Docomo Pacific automatically gaining a semis entry and six other teams advancing to the next round to battle for the three remaining semis seats.

At the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium, the Rotary caging continued with its regular season games in the U15 and U19 di-

visions. The Sonics and Sparks were tied for the lead in the U19.

At the REM Center, the Black Hawks kept the lead in the 4th Annual Traders Insurance Badminton Team Tournament after Week 3 of competition.

At the various fields on Saipan, games in the U14 and U18 divisions and men's category of the NMIFA fall league were played with the pacesetters adding victories to their name in Week 7 of the season.

Also having a winning week

were Saipan bowlers, as Rusty Musca and Gigi Zapanta were named NMASA Male and Female Athletes of the Month (for October).

Still in bowling, the CNMI sent a team to the 24th Annual Asian Intercity Bowling Championships at the Pearl Bowling Center in Pasay City, Philippines.

The team was composed of brothers Russell, Raphael, and Raymond Zapanta, Percy Omechelang, Jorge Soledad, and Simon Manacop. Ross Zapanta was the team's manager and his son, Raymond, gave the CNMI its best finish in the three-day tournament after placing in the Top 20 out of 56 bowlers.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Saipan Team that competed in the 24th Annual Asian Intercity Bowling Championships in Pasay City, Philippines pose for a group photo. From left, Saipan team manager Ross Zapanta and bowlers Percy Omechelang, Raymond Zapanta, Russelle Zapanta, Simon Manacop, Raphael Zapanta, and Jorge Soledad.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Annette Quiambao plays for the Black Hawks, which still lead in the Traders Insurance badminton tournament after Week 3.



WALTER SUTHERLAND

Kagman High School's Juan Maratita pitches during their title game against Saipan Southern High School in the MISO baseball league last week at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Wild Bill's and Baek Du San strikers in action during the first half of their game in the 2010 Men's Football Fall Cup last week at the Oleai Sports Complex Field. Wild Bill's won, 7-0.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Participants in the 100m freestyle race plunge into the pool during the 2010 Saipan Swim Club All Schools Swimming Championship at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool in Marpi.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Mieko Carey pedals down Saipan Radar Station during the 2010 Ride 'Round the Ridge mountain bike race last week.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Kagman High School's Josh Jones goes for a spike against MHS defenders during their championship game in the MISO volleyball league last week at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

Strong finish
for Woods in
Australia

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Pacquiao pounds Margarito for eighth title



Manny Pacquiao, right, lands a punch against Antonio Margarito during the 11th round of their WBC light middleweight title boxing match Saturday, Nov. 13, 2010, in Arlington, Texas.

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP)—Manny Pacquiao more than made up with speed what he lacked in size.

Giving away both pounds and inches, boxing's little superstar turned Antonio Margarito into a bloody and nearly blind fighter with a dizzying array of punches Saturday night in a lopsided decision victory that

wasn't close from the opening rounds on.

In a spectacular performance before a delighted crowd of 41,734 at Cowboys Stadium, Pacquiao cemented his claim to being the best fighter in the world by dominating the bigger but slower Margarito almost from the opening bell. Pacquiao

won round after round, opening a cut on Margarito's cheek, closing his right eye, and turning his face into a bloody mess.

The punches came quickly, and they came often. Margarito was plenty game as he tried to stalk Pacquiao around the ring, but every time he got close Pacquiao would land a

four- or five-punch combination that snapped his head back and stopped him in his tracks.

The beating was so thorough that the congressman from the Philippines turned to referee Laurence Cole several times in the 11th round, imploring him to stop the fight. It went on, though, even though Margarito had no chance to win.

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Saipan Community School, Hopwood triumph



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Hopwood Junior High School's Mikayla Lopez, seen here chasing a runner to the finish line, was the top female finisher in the two-mile race of the cross country finale last Saturday at the CPA Field.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Hopwood Junior High School and Saipan Community School delivered in the finale, topping their respective divisions in the 2010 All Schools Cross Country Championship last Saturday at the CPA Field.

In the girls U12 division, Hopwood took the championship trophy, as it swept the Top 3 places. Reanita Kaipat led the one-mile run with a time of nine minutes and 24 seconds, followed by teammate Rumina Litulimar (9:27.00) and Jaylina Borja (9:27.05).

Hopwood had two more top finishes with its runners ruling the boys and girls U14 divisions, which both had a distance of two miles.

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Huevo Grandes rules PIC dodgeball tourney

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

Huevos Grandes defeated M Squad, 2-1, to win the 2010 Pacific Islands Club Fall Dodgeball Classic last Saturday at the PIC hardcourt.

The champion squad was composed of team captain Amanda

Allen, Thomas Silberberger, Brian O'Laughlin, Jackie Van Dam, Brian Morris, Daniel Stafford, Matt Grosenbach, Tiberius Mocanu, Steven Gardiner, and Adam Hardwicke.

Huevos Grandes started its championship bid in the fall classic last Saturday when it

competed in the elimination round. Eleven teams joined the elimination round last Friday and squads were divided into two groups to play in a round-robin format.

Huevos Grandes finished the first round of competition

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Members of Huevos Grandes pose for a group photo after winning the 2010 PIC Fall Dodgeball Classic over M Squad, 2-1, last Saturday at the Pacific Island Club's tennis courts.

Japanese wins hole-in-one at Hyatt Classic

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

Lady luck smiled on a Japanese golfer, not only once, but twice.

Japanese Mori Toshiyuki sank a hole-in-one to win a brand new Toyota Yaris from Microl Toyota and then his team went on to top the 15th Annual Club at the Hyatt Golf Classic last Saturday at the Laolao Bay Golf Classic.

"I have been playing golf for almost 30 years and this is my first ever hole-in-one. The ball took one bounce on the greens before dropping right in the cup. Needless to say I am very happy," Toshiyuki said during the awards banquet at the poolside of the Hyatt Regency Saipan Saturday evening.

Toshiyuki made the hole-in-one on the par-3 No. 3 on the west course of the Kag-

man facility.

The 57-year-old Saipan resident teamed up with fellow Japanese Itsuro Hosoda and Masami and Satsuko Ogura in beating 27 other teams in the four-person scramble format and double peoria handicap system tournament. The Toshiyuki-led foursome had a net score of 61.6 to win the fundraising event.

Placing second was the group of Steve Jang, Tony Satur, and Adam and Sean Lee, who totaled a net 64. Completing the Top 3 finish was the team of Faye Crozat, Niramai Koebel and Willie and Aya Matsumoto, who combined for a net score of 65.4

The Top 3 teams won accommodations from Hyatt Regency Saipan for their feats.

Other featured winners of the day included speed hole

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WALTER SUTHERLAND

Hole-in-one winner Mori Toshiyuki, center, is joined by Hyatt Regency general manager Nick Nishikawa, left, Microl-Toyota's Doug Brennan, right, and Club at the Hyatt Golf Classic guest of honor Juan Blanco, front, during the awards ceremony last Saturday night.